

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES
Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services
7500 Security Boulevard, Mail Stop N2-20-16
Baltimore, Maryland 21244-1850



Office of Strategic Operations and Regulatory Affairs/Freedom of Information Group
Control Numbers 012320187043, 091920177095, 012620187046

RE: 18-cv-00549-ABJ

1/17/2019

Austin R. Evers
American Oversight
1030 15th Street NW, Suite B255
Washington, DC 20005

Dear Mr. Evers:

This letter is in further response to your Freedom of Information Act (5 U.S.C. §552) requests which you sent to the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services. In your initial requests, you sought access to the following information:

Medicaid Waiver (8/17/17)	7095	CMS's notes do not reflect any awareness of the second-round request
Medicaid Waiver Round 2 (1/26/18)	[No tracking number]	
State communications (8/17/17)	7096	CMS's notes appear to relate only to the second-round request (7046). CMS provided a "no records" response on 5/2/2018.
State Communications Round 2 (1/26/18)	7046	
SVC/HMA (8/17/17)	7043	CMS's notes do not reflect any awareness of the second-round request
SVC/HMA Round 2 (1/26/18)	[No tracking number]	

In a letter e-mailed to AUSA Fred Haynes on November 14, 2018, American Oversight requested CMS conduct supplemental searches for the above noted FOIA requests. CMS completed a secondary search for these requests and the results of that search are as follows.

1. 091920177095 Medicaid Waiver

CMS located 5 additional pages. After reviewing these pages, CMS is denying access to these pages in full pursuant to Exemption 5 of the FOIA (5 U.S.C. §552(b)(5)). Exemption 5 of the

FOIA permits the withholding of Attorney – Client communications which are privileged in the context of civil discovery.

2. 012620187046 State Communications

CMS located 147 additional pages. After reviewing these pages, CMS is releasing 95 pages in full and denying access to 47 pages in part pursuant to Exemptions 5 and 6 of the FOIA (5 U.S.C. §§ 552(b)(5) and (b)(6)).

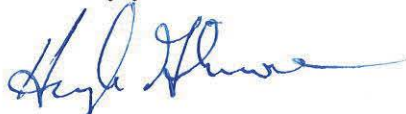
Exemption 5 of the FOIA permits the withholding of “inter-agency or intra-agency memorandums or letters which are predecisional and contain staff advice, opinion and recommendation which are part of the agency’s deliberative decision making process.” The intent of this exemption is to preserve free and candid dialogue leading to decision making; to protect against premature disclosure of proposed policies before they are finally adopted; and to protect against public confusion that might result from disclosure of reasons and rationales that were not in fact ultimately the grounds for an agency’s action. The portion of the page that you are denied access to contains predecisional information, in that they are preliminary findings and notes generated through a deliberative process.

Exemption 6 of the FOIA permits a Federal agency to withhold information contained in personnel and medical files and similar files the disclosure of which would “constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy.” I have weighed the public interest in disclosure (which the Supreme Court has held to be limited in this context to the public interest that would be served by shedding light in the agency’s performance of its statutory duties) against the harm to the privacy of the individuals identified in these records and have concluded that the privacy interest of the subject individuals outweighs the public interest in disclosure in this particular matter.

3. 012320187043 SVC/HMA Round 2

After conducting a second search of the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) files, i.e., a search reasonably calculated to locate records responsive to your request and employing reasonable standards, we were unable to locate any records responsive to your request.

Sincerely yours,



Hugh Gilmore
Director
Freedom of Information Group

Enclosure:
As Stated

From: [Dinicolo, Kelly A. \(CMS/OC\)](#)
To: [Harper, Scott S. \(CMS/CQISCO\)](#); [Brice-Smith, Angela M. \(CMS/CQISCO\)](#); [Humphrey, Gaye N. \(CMS/CQISCO\)](#); [Moos, Bob \(CMS/CQISCO\)](#); [Koepke, Christopher P. \(CMS/OC\)](#); [Franklin, Julie G. \(CMS/OC\)](#); [Rivi, Diana \(CMS/OC\)](#); [Thomas, Kimberly \(CMS/OC\)](#); [Matt; Keith Nahigian \(N/S\)](#); [Toomey, Mimi C. \(CMS/CMMI\)](#); [Ritchie, Vu \(CMS/OA\)](#); [Martino, Maria \(CMS/OL\)](#); [nsporter@nahigianstrategies.com \(nsporter@nahigianstrategies.com\)](#); [Bethany Sims; Steve Carpinelli; Matt Mlynarczyk; Julia Germain; Howell, Cherie A. \(CMS/OL\)](#); [Chadwick, Alpheus K. \(CMS/OL\)](#); [Kendra Kojcsich; "taylor@nahigianstrategies.com"; jordan.bearden@governor.arkansas.gov; danielle@nahigianstrategies.com; cassie@nahigianstrategies.com; jr.davis@governor.arkansas.gov; catherine.kelley@governor.arkansas.gov; Brookes, Brady \(CMS/OA\); jennifer.bruce@governor.arkansas.gov; chelsea.okelley@governor.arkansas.gov; alison.williams@governor.arkansas.gov; Monroe, Johnathan \(CMS/OC\); Cindy Gillespie; Dawn Stehle; Marci Manley; Kelley Linck; Boulanger, Jennifer L. \(CMS/OL\); Watkins, Lisa W. \(CMS/OL\); Forbes, Sean \(CMS/OC\); Krawczyk, Mark \(CMS/OC\)](#)
Subject: Arkansas Final Prep Mtg

DO NOT DELETE OR CHANGE ANY OF THE TEXT BELOW THIS LINE

Kelly Dinicolo has scheduled this WebEx meeting.

Arkansas Final Prep Mtg
Host: Kelly Dinicolo

Access Information

1. Please call the following number:
WebEx: (b)(6)
2. Follow the instructions you hear on the phone.

Your WebEx Meeting Number: (b)(6)

=====

To join from a Cisco VoIP enabled CMS Region or from CMS Central Office

1. Dial ext. (b)(6)
Enter Meeting Number: Use Meeting WebEx Number provided above.

=====

To join this meeting online

1. (b)(6)
2. If requested, enter your name and email address.
3. If a password is required, enter the meeting password: This meeting does not require a password.
4. Click "Join".
5. Follow the instructions that appear on your screen.

+++++

This meeting may be recorded by the host. If you have questions, please contact the host.

+++++

Hosts, need your host access code or key? Go to the meeting information page:

(b)(6)

Delivering the power of collaboration
The meetings.cms.gov team

To: [Katie.Beck \(Katie.Beck@governor.arkansas.gov\)](mailto:Katie.Beck@governor.arkansas.gov)
Subject: FW: FW: arkansas democrat gazette question
Date: Wednesday, February 28, 2018 5:28:05 PM

fyi

Confidential and deliberative, pre-decisional communication

-----Original Message-----

From: Mike Wickline [<mailto:mwickline@arkansasonline.com>]
Sent: Wednesday, February 28, 2018 4:10 PM
To: CMS Press <Press@CMS.hhs.gov>
Subject: arkansas democrat gazette question

I am a reporter for the Arkansas Democrat Gazette and am trying to confirm a senator's comment that the director or assistant director of CMS will be here in little rock on monday to meet with legislators to answer their questions regarding the waiver for the work requirement for the medicaid expansion population.

My deadline is at 6 p.m. our time.

respectfully,

mike wickline

From: Brady.Brookes@cms.hhs.gov
To: [JR Davis](#)
Cc: [Lynch, Calder \(CMS/OA\)](#)
Subject: Re: Re: HOLD on Media Advisory
Date: Friday, March 2, 2018 6:42:43 PM

If you could pass on the news that you are cleared to send the advisory to Dennis, we would greatly appreciate it. He alerted the Administrator, so we just want to close the loop.

Sent from my iPhone

On Mar 2, 2018, at 6:31 PM, JR Davis <JR.Davis@governor.arkansas.gov> wrote:

Thanks for all of your help this week.

From: Monroe, Johnathan (CMS/OC) [<mailto:Johnathan.Monroe@cms.hhs.gov>]
Sent: Friday, March 02, 2018 5:06 PM
To: JR Davis <JR.Davis@governor.arkansas.gov>
Cc: Chelsea O'Kelley <Chelsea.OKelley@governor.arkansas.gov>; Dinicolo, Kelly A. (CMS/OC) <Kelly.Dinicolo@cms.hhs.gov>; Cassie Williams <cassie@nahigianstrategies.com>; Danielle Hagen <danielle@nahigianstrategies.com>; Ceballos, Kelly L. (CMS/OC) <Kelly.Ceballos@cms.hhs.gov>; Wilcox, Jonathan (CMS/OA) <Jonathan.Wilcox@cms.hhs.gov>; Brookes, Brady (CMS/OA) <Brady.Brookes@cms.hhs.gov>; Lynch, Calder (CMS/OA) <Calder.Lynch@cms.hhs.gov>
Subject: RE: HOLD on Media Advisory

JR,
All clear. You have the green light. Sorry for the delay and thank you for your patience.

Best,
Johnathan

From: JR Davis [<mailto:JR.Davis@governor.arkansas.gov>]
Sent: Friday, March 2, 2018 4:55 PM
To: Monroe, Johnathan (CMS/OC) <Johnathan.Monroe@cms.hhs.gov>
Cc: Chelsea O'Kelley <Chelsea.OKelley@governor.arkansas.gov>; Dinicolo, Kelly A. (CMS/OC) <Kelly.Dinicolo@cms.hhs.gov>; Cassie Williams <cassie@nahigianstrategies.com>; Danielle Hagen <danielle@nahigianstrategies.com>; Ceballos, Kelly L. (CMS/OC) <Kelly.Ceballos@cms.hhs.gov>; Wilcox, Jonathan (CMS/OA) <Jonathan.Wilcox@cms.hhs.gov>
Subject: RE: HOLD on Media Advisory

For how long?

From: Monroe, Johnathan (CMS/OC) [<mailto:Johnathan.Monroe@cms.hhs.gov>]

Sent: Friday, March 02, 2018 3:54 PM

To: JR Davis <JR.Davis@governor.arkansas.gov>

Cc: Chelsea O'Kelley <Chelsea.OKelley@governor.arkansas.gov>; Dinicolo, Kelly A. (CMS/OC) <Kelly.Dinicolo@cms.hhs.gov>; Cassie Williams <cassie@nahigianstrategies.com>; Danielle Hagen <danielle@nahigianstrategies.com>; Ceballos, Kelly L. (CMS/OC) <Kelly.Ceballos@cms.hhs.gov>; Wilcox, Jonathan (CMS/OA) <Jonathan.Wilcox@cms.hhs.gov>

Subject: HOLD on Media Advisory

JR/Chelsea,

Would you all please hold on the press advisory right now?

(b)(5)

(b)(5)

Best,
Johnathan

From: Monroe, Johnathan (CMS/OC)

Sent: Friday, March 2, 2018 11:44 AM

To: 'JR Davis' <JR.Davis@governor.arkansas.gov>

Cc: Chelsea O'Kelley <Chelsea.OKelley@governor.arkansas.gov>; Dinicolo, Kelly A. (CMS/OC) <Kelly.Dinicolo@cms.hhs.gov>; Cassie Williams <cassie@nahigianstrategies.com>; Danielle Hagen <danielle@nahigianstrategies.com>; Ceballos, Kelly L. (CMS/OC) <Kelly.Ceballos@cms.hhs.gov>; Wilcox, Jonathan (CMS/OA) <jonathan.wilcox@cms.hhs.gov>

Subject: RE: Planning - Media Call Today

Thanks JR! It was in my spam folder. I appreciate that. If you don't mind we also plan on sending the press release to DC press to give you more coverage on Monday. We look forward to seeing the release. Thanks again.

From: JR Davis [<mailto:JR.Davis@governor.arkansas.gov>]

Sent: Friday, March 2, 2018 11:31 AM

To: Monroe, Johnathan (CMS/OC) <Johnathan.Monroe@cms.hhs.gov>

Cc: Chelsea O'Kelley <Chelsea.OKelley@governor.arkansas.gov>; Dinicolo, Kelly A. (CMS/OC) <Kelly.Dinicolo@cms.hhs.gov>; Cassie Williams <cassie@nahigianstrategies.com>; Danielle Hagen <danielle@nahigianstrategies.com>; Ceballos, Kelly L. (CMS/OC) <Kelly.Ceballos@cms.hhs.gov>

Subject: Re: Planning - Media Call Today

Thanks, Johnathan. Chelsea O'Kelley sent you the updated media advisory yesterday. Let me know if you are unable to find it.

We should have the draft release to you by 12p CT.

Thanks,

J.R. Davis
Communications Director
Gov. Asa Hutchinson (AR)
C: 501.541.7036
JR.Davis@governor.arkansas.gov
@JR__Davis

On Mar 2, 2018, at 9:32 AM, Monroe, Johnathan (CMS/OC)
<Johnathan.Monroe@cms.hhs.gov> wrote:

Good morning JR,
Just checking in on a couple of items:

<!--[if !supportLists]-->1. <!--[endif]-->Media Advisory w/live
stream link? We plan on sending today to DC press around
5:30 ET or shortly after you send to your state/regional press.

<!--[if !supportLists]-->2. <!--[endif]--> (b)(5)

(b)(5)

(b)(5)

From: JR Davis [<mailto:JR.Davis@governor.arkansas.gov>]
Sent: Wednesday, February 28, 2018 1:12 PM
To: Monroe, Johnathan (CMS/OC) <Johnathan.Monroe@cms.hhs.gov>;
Danielle Hagen <danielle@nahigianstrategies.com>; Chelsea O'Kelley
<Chelsea.OKelley@governor.arkansas.gov>
Cc: Dinicolo, Kelly A. (CMS/OC) <Kelly.Dinicolo@cms.hhs.gov>; Cassie
Williams <cassie@nahigianstrategies.com>
Subject: RE: Planning - Media Call Today

Thanks, Johnathan. Really appreciate it!

From: Monroe, Johnathan (CMS/OC)
[<mailto:Johnathan.Monroe@cms.hhs.gov>]

Sent: Wednesday, February 28, 2018 10:56 AM

To: JR Davis <JR.Davis@governor.arkansas.gov>; Danielle Hagen <danielle@nahigianstrategies.com>; Chelsea O'Kelley <Chelsea.OKelley@governor.arkansas.gov>

Cc: Dinicolo, Kelly A. (CMS/OC) <Kelly.Dinicolo@cms.hhs.gov>; Cassie Williams <cassie@nahigianstrategies.com>

Subject: RE: Planning - Media Call Today

JR,

Please see below the approved language for the media advisory in yellow and an example of what Indiana did. Underlined emphasis on the critical language. I owe you the following:

- <!--[if !supportLists]-->1. <!--[endif]-->**Media Advisory Language-** DONE-Below
- <!--[if !supportLists]-->2. <!--[endif]-->**Examples of Indiana/Kentucky Press Releases:** DONE-
- <!--[if !supportLists]-->a. <!--[endif]-->Indiana/HHS Joint Press Release:
<https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2018/02/02/hhs-approves-new-healthy-indiana-medicaid-demonstration.html>
- <!--[if !supportLists]-->b. <!--[endif]-->Kentucky Release: Attached
- <!--[if !supportLists]-->3. <!--[endif]-->**Messaging and Language on how CMS talks about the Community Engagement-**Expect that by 3 pm ET
- <!--[if !supportLists]-->4. <!--[endif]-->**Quote from the Administrator-** Still drafting and sending through our clearance process. Should have it by 3 p.m. ET Friday to plug into your release.

Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns.

Best,
Johnathan

INDIANAPOLIS – Indiana Governor Eric J. Holcomb will join U.S. Health and Human Services (HHS) Secretary Alex Azar and Indiana Secretary of Family and Social Services Administration (FSSA) Dr. Jennifer Walthall at the Sidney & Lois Eskenazi Hospital in Indianapolis tomorrow, Feb. 2, 2018 at 2:30 p.m. ET **for an announcement and media availability.**

Media (including reporters, cameramen, etc.) wishing to attend must RSVP to rhoffmeyer@gov.in.gov or reply to this email by 10:30 a.m.

ET Friday, Feb. 2 and come prepared to show identification.

WHAT: Press Conference

WHO: U.S. HHS Secretary Alex Azar
Indiana Gov. Eric J. Holcomb
Indiana FSSA Secretary Jennifer Walthall, MD,
MPH

WHEN: Friday, Feb. 2, 2018
Roundtable 1:15 p.m. ET
*Media are welcome to take photos and b-roll of
the roundtable for the first five minutes.*
Press Conference 2:30 p.m. ET

WHERE: Sidney & Lois Eskenazi Hospital
720 Eskenazi Ave.
Indianapolis, IN 46202
Faegre Baker Daniels Conference Room A

PARKING: Media parking will be available along Dr. Harvey
Middleton Way near the main entrance of the Sidney & Lois
Eskenazi Hospital, 720 Eskenazi Ave. Eskenazi Health security will
direct media to the correct parking location.

From: JR Davis [<mailto:JR.Davis@governor.arkansas.gov>]
Sent: Wednesday, February 28, 2018 11:40 AM
To: Danielle Hagen <danielle@nahigianstrategies.com>; Chelsea O'Kelley
<Chelsea.OKelley@governor.arkansas.gov>
Cc: Dinicolo, Kelly A. (CMS/OC) <Kelly.Dinicolo@cms.hhs.gov>; Monroe,
Johnathan (CMS/OC) <Johnathan.Monroe@cms.hhs.gov>; Cassie Williams
<cassie@nahigianstrategies.com>
Subject: RE: Planning - Media Call Today

Danielle, can you all send over preferred language for media advisory and
release? My team will have the draft media advisory to you by the end of
the day for review. We plan to push that out Friday.

Also working to get you all the media list for planning purposes. Should
have it to you soon.

Thanks!

JR

From: JR Davis

Sent: Tuesday, February 27, 2018 12:23 PM

To: 'Danielle Hagen' <danielle@nahigianstrategies.com>; Chelsea O'Kelley <Chelsea.OKelley@governor.arkansas.gov>

Cc: Dinicolo, Kelly A. (CMS/OC) <Kelly.Dinicolo@cms.hhs.gov>; Monroe, Johnathan (CMS/OC) <Johnathan.Monroe@cms.hhs.gov>; Cassie Williams <cassie@nahigianstrategies.com>

Subject: RE: Planning - Media Call Today

Sounds great. And thank you for taking the time, as well.

From: Danielle Hagen [<mailto:danielle@nahigianstrategies.com>]

Sent: Tuesday, February 27, 2018 11:42 AM

To: JR Davis <JR.Davis@governor.arkansas.gov>; Chelsea O'Kelley <Chelsea.OKelley@governor.arkansas.gov>

Cc: Dinicolo, Kelly A. (CMS/OC) <Kelly.Dinicolo@cms.hhs.gov>; Monroe, Johnathan (CMS/OC) <Johnathan.Monroe@cms.hhs.gov>; Cassie Williams <cassie@nahigianstrategies.com>

Subject: Planning - Media Call Today

J.R. and Chelsea,

Thank you so much for your time today to talk through the media materials and coordination. Putting us all on one email chain so we can share information.

Thank you!

Danielle



Danielle Hagen
Senior Vice President
nahigian strategies, llc
202.280.2003 (o)
(b)(6) (m)
www.nahigianstrategies.com

From: [JR Davis](#)
To: [Monroe, Johnathan \(CMS/OC\)](#)
Cc: [Chelsea O'Kelley](#); [Dinicolo, Kelly A. \(CMS/OC\)](#); [Cassie Williams](#); [Danielle Hagen](#); [Ceballos, Kelly L. \(CMS/OC\)](#); [Wilcox, Jonathan \(CMS/OA\)](#); [Brookes, Brady \(CMS/OA\)](#); [Lynch, Calder \(CMS/OA\)](#)
Subject: RE: HOLD on Media Advisory
Date: Friday, March 2, 2018 6:31:37 PM

Thanks for all of your help this week.

From: Monroe, Johnathan (CMS/OC) [<mailto:Johnathan.Monroe@cms.hhs.gov>]
Sent: Friday, March 02, 2018 5:06 PM
To: JR Davis <JR.Davis@governor.arkansas.gov>
Cc: Chelsea O'Kelley <Chelsea.OKelley@governor.arkansas.gov>; Dinicolo, Kelly A. (CMS/OC) <Kelly.Dinicolo@cms.hhs.gov>; Cassie Williams <cassie@nahigianstrategies.com>; Danielle Hagen <danielle@nahigianstrategies.com>; Ceballos, Kelly L. (CMS/OC) <Kelly.Ceballos@cms.hhs.gov>; Wilcox, Jonathan (CMS/OA) <Jonathan.Wilcox@cms.hhs.gov>; Brookes, Brady (CMS/OA) <Brady.Brookes@cms.hhs.gov>; Lynch, Calder (CMS/OA) <Calder.Lynch@cms.hhs.gov>
Subject: RE: HOLD on Media Advisory

JR,

All clear. You have the green light. Sorry for the delay and thank you for your patience.

Best,
Johnathan

From: JR Davis [<mailto:JR.Davis@governor.arkansas.gov>]
Sent: Friday, March 2, 2018 4:55 PM
To: Monroe, Johnathan (CMS/OC) <Johnathan.Monroe@cms.hhs.gov>
Cc: Chelsea O'Kelley <Chelsea.OKelley@governor.arkansas.gov>; Dinicolo, Kelly A. (CMS/OC) <Kelly.Dinicolo@cms.hhs.gov>; Cassie Williams <cassie@nahigianstrategies.com>; Danielle Hagen <danielle@nahigianstrategies.com>; Ceballos, Kelly L. (CMS/OC) <Kelly.Ceballos@cms.hhs.gov>; Wilcox, Jonathan (CMS/OA) <Jonathan.Wilcox@cms.hhs.gov>
Subject: RE: HOLD on Media Advisory

For how long?

From: Monroe, Johnathan (CMS/OC) [<mailto:Johnathan.Monroe@cms.hhs.gov>]
Sent: Friday, March 02, 2018 3:54 PM
To: JR Davis <JR.Davis@governor.arkansas.gov>
Cc: Chelsea O'Kelley <Chelsea.OKelley@governor.arkansas.gov>; Dinicolo, Kelly A. (CMS/OC) <Kelly.Dinicolo@cms.hhs.gov>; Cassie Williams <cassie@nahigianstrategies.com>; Danielle Hagen <danielle@nahigianstrategies.com>; Ceballos, Kelly L. (CMS/OC) <Kelly.Ceballos@cms.hhs.gov>; Wilcox, Jonathan (CMS/OA) <Jonathan.Wilcox@cms.hhs.gov>
Subject: HOLD on Media Advisory

JR/Chelsea,

Would you all please hold on the press advisory right now?

(b)(5)

(b)(5)

Best,
Johnathan

From: Monroe, Johnathan (CMS/OC)
Sent: Friday, March 2, 2018 11:44 AM
To: 'JR Davis' <JR.Davis@governor.arkansas.gov>
Cc: Chelsea O'Kelley <Chelsea.OKelley@governor.arkansas.gov>; Dinicolo, Kelly A. (CMS/OC) <Kelly.Dinicolo@cms.hhs.gov>; Cassie Williams <cassie@nahigianstrategies.com>; Danielle Hagen <danielle@nahigianstrategies.com>; Ceballos, Kelly L. (CMS/OC) <Kelly.Ceballos@cms.hhs.gov>; Wilcox, Jonathan (CMS/OA) <jonathan.wilcox@cms.hhs.gov>
Subject: RE: Planning - Media Call Today

Thanks JR! It was in my spam folder. I appreciate that. If you don't mind we also plan on sending the press release to DC press to give you more coverage on Monday. We look forward to seeing the release. Thanks again.

From: JR Davis [<mailto:JR.Davis@governor.arkansas.gov>]
Sent: Friday, March 2, 2018 11:31 AM
To: Monroe, Johnathan (CMS/OC) <Johnathan.Monroe@cms.hhs.gov>
Cc: Chelsea O'Kelley <Chelsea.OKelley@governor.arkansas.gov>; Dinicolo, Kelly A. (CMS/OC) <Kelly.Dinicolo@cms.hhs.gov>; Cassie Williams <cassie@nahigianstrategies.com>; Danielle Hagen <danielle@nahigianstrategies.com>; Ceballos, Kelly L. (CMS/OC) <Kelly.Ceballos@cms.hhs.gov>
Subject: Re: Planning - Media Call Today

Thanks, Johnathan. Chelsea O'Kelley sent you the updated media advisory yesterday. Let me know if you are unable to find it.

We should have the draft release to you by 12p CT.

Thanks,

J.R. Davis
Communications Director
Gov. Asa Hutchinson (AR)
C: 501.541.7036
JR.Davis@governor.arkansas.gov
@JR__Davis

On Mar 2, 2018, at 9:32 AM, Monroe, Johnathan (CMS/OC) <Johnathan.Monroe@cms.hhs.gov> wrote:

Good morning JR,
Just checking in on a couple of items:

1. Media Advisory w/live stream link? We plan on sending today to DC press around 5:30 ET or shortly after you send to your state/regional press.
- 2.

(b)(5)

(b)(5)

From: JR Davis [<mailto:JR.Davis@governor.arkansas.gov>]
Sent: Wednesday, February 28, 2018 1:12 PM
To: Monroe, Johnathan (CMS/OC) <Johnathan.Monroe@cms.hhs.gov>; Danielle Hagen <danielle@nahigianstrategies.com>; Chelsea O'Kelley <Chelsea.OKelley@governor.arkansas.gov>
Cc: Dinicolo, Kelly A. (CMS/OC) <Kelly.Dinicolo@cms.hhs.gov>; Cassie Williams <cassie@nahigianstrategies.com>
Subject: RE: Planning - Media Call Today

Thanks, Johnathan. Really appreciate it!

From: Monroe, Johnathan (CMS/OC) [<mailto:Johnathan.Monroe@cms.hhs.gov>]
Sent: Wednesday, February 28, 2018 10:56 AM
To: JR Davis <JR.Davis@governor.arkansas.gov>; Danielle Hagen <danielle@nahigianstrategies.com>; Chelsea O'Kelley <Chelsea.OKelley@governor.arkansas.gov>
Cc: Dinicolo, Kelly A. (CMS/OC) <Kelly.Dinicolo@cms.hhs.gov>; Cassie Williams <cassie@nahigianstrategies.com>
Subject: RE: Planning - Media Call Today

JR,

Please see below the approved language for the media advisory in yellow and an example of what Indiana did. Underlined emphasis on the critical language. I owe you the following:

1. **Media Advisory Language-** DONE-Below
2. **Examples of Indiana/Kentucky Press Releases:** DONE-
 - a. Indiana/HHS Joint Press Release:

<https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2018/02/02/hhs-approves-new-healthy-indiana-medicaid-demonstration.html>

- b. Kentucky Release: Attached
- 3. **Messaging and Language on how CMS talks about the Community Engagement**-Expect that by 3 pm ET
- 4. **Quote from the Administrator**- Still drafting and sending through our clearance process. Should have it by 3 p.m. ET Friday to plug into your release.

Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns.

Best,
Johnathan

INDIANAPOLIS – Indiana Governor Eric J. Holcomb will join U.S. Health and Human Services (HHS) Secretary Alex Azar and Indiana Secretary of Family and Social Services Administration (FSSA) Dr. Jennifer Walthall at the Sidney & Lois Eskenazi Hospital in Indianapolis tomorrow, Feb. 2, 2018 at 2:30 p.m. ET **for an announcement and media availability.**

Media (including reporters, cameramen, etc.) wishing to attend must RSVP to rhoffmeyer@gov.in.gov or reply to this email by 10:30 a.m. ET Friday, Feb. 2 and come prepared to show identification.

WHAT: Press Conference

WHO: U.S. HHS Secretary Alex Azar
Indiana Gov. Eric J. Holcomb
Indiana FSSA Secretary Jennifer Walthall, MD, MPH

WHEN: Friday, Feb. 2, 2018
Roundtable 1:15 p.m. ET
Media are welcome to take photos and b-roll of the roundtable for the first five minutes.
Press Conference 2:30 p.m. ET

WHERE: Sidney & Lois Eskenazi Hospital
720 Eskenazi Ave.
Indianapolis, IN 46202
Faegre Baker Daniels Conference Room A

PARKING: Media parking will be available along Dr. Harvey Middleton Way near the main entrance of the Sidney & Lois Eskenazi Hospital, 720 Eskenazi Ave. Eskenazi Health security will direct media to the correct parking location.

From: JR Davis [<mailto:JR.Davis@governor.arkansas.gov>]

Sent: Wednesday, February 28, 2018 11:40 AM

To: Danielle Hagen <danielle@nahigianstrategies.com>; Chelsea O'Kelley <Chelsea.OKelley@governor.arkansas.gov>

Cc: Dinicolo, Kelly A. (CMS/OC) <Kelly.Dinicolo@cms.hhs.gov>; Monroe, Johnathan (CMS/OC) <Johnathan.Monroe@cms.hhs.gov>; Cassie Williams <cassie@nahigianstrategies.com>

Subject: RE: Planning - Media Call Today

Danielle, can you all send over preferred language for media advisory and release? My team will have the draft media advisory to you by the end of the day for review. We plan to push that out Friday.

Also working to get you all the media list for planning purposes. Should have it to you soon.

Thanks!

JR

From: JR Davis

Sent: Tuesday, February 27, 2018 12:23 PM

To: 'Danielle Hagen' <danielle@nahigianstrategies.com>; Chelsea O'Kelley <Chelsea.OKelley@governor.arkansas.gov>

Cc: Dinicolo, Kelly A. (CMS/OC) <Kelly.Dinicolo@cms.hhs.gov>; Monroe, Johnathan (CMS/OC) <Johnathan.Monroe@cms.hhs.gov>; Cassie Williams <cassie@nahigianstrategies.com>

Subject: RE: Planning - Media Call Today

Sounds great. And thank you for taking the time, as well.

From: Danielle Hagen [<mailto:danielle@nahigianstrategies.com>]

Sent: Tuesday, February 27, 2018 11:42 AM

To: JR Davis <JR.Davis@governor.arkansas.gov>; Chelsea O'Kelley <Chelsea.OKelley@governor.arkansas.gov>

Cc: Dinicolo, Kelly A. (CMS/OC) <Kelly.Dinicolo@cms.hhs.gov>; Monroe, Johnathan (CMS/OC) <Johnathan.Monroe@cms.hhs.gov>; Cassie Williams <cassie@nahigianstrategies.com>

Subject: Planning - Media Call Today

J.R. and Chelsea,

Thank you so much for your time today to talk through the media materials and coordination. Putting us all on one email chain so we can share information.

Thank you!
Danielle



Danielle Hagen
Senior Vice President
nahigian strategies, llc
202.280.2003 (o)
(b)(6) (m)
www.nahigianstrategies.com

From: [Chelsea O'Kelley](#)
To: [JR Davis](#); [Monroe, Johnathan \(CMS/OC\)](#)
Cc: [Dinicolo, Kelly A. \(CMS/OC\)](#); [Cassie Williams](#); [Danielle Hagen](#); [Ceballos, Kelly L. \(CMS/OC\)](#); [Wilcox, Jonathan \(CMS/OA\)](#); [Lynch, Calder \(CMS/OA\)](#); [Brookes, Brady \(CMS/OA\)](#); [Katie Beck](#)
Subject: Re: Re: HOLD on Media Advisory
Date: Monday, March 5, 2018 10:19:10 AM

Johnathan— Do you have a digital copy of the signed waiver document that you can send our way?

Thank you,
Chelsea

From: JR Davis <JR.Davis@governor.arkansas.gov>
Date: Sunday, March 4, 2018 at 2:41 PM
To: "Monroe, Johnathan (CMS/OC)" <Johnathan.Monroe@cms.hhs.gov>
Cc: Chelsea O'Kelley <Chelsea.OKelley@governor.arkansas.gov>, "Dinicolo, Kelly A. (CMS/OC)" <Kelly.Dinicolo@cms.hhs.gov>, Cassie Williams <cassie@nahigianstrategies.com>, Danielle Hagen <danielle@nahigianstrategies.com>, "Ceballos, Kelly L. (CMS/OC)" <Kelly.Ceballos@cms.hhs.gov>, "Wilcox, Jonathan (CMS/OA)" <Jonathan.Wilcox@cms.hhs.gov>, "Lynch, Calder (CMS/OA)" <Calder.Lynch@cms.hhs.gov>, "Brookes, Brady (CMS/OA)" <Brady.Brookes@cms.hhs.gov>, Katie Beck <Katie.Beck@governor.arkansas.gov>
Subject: RE: HOLD on Media Advisory

Attached is the final list of confirmed media outlets and reporters for Monday's 11a CT news conference. If more reach out before tomorrow, I'll add their names and send an updated version.

NOTE: Only ONE of the five highlighted photographers from the Democrat-Gazette will be in attendance, but they weren't sure which one it would be as of today.

Let me know if you all need anything else.

J.R.

From: Monroe, Johnathan (CMS/OC) [<mailto:Johnathan.Monroe@cms.hhs.gov>]
Sent: Friday, March 02, 2018 3:57 PM
To: JR Davis <JR.Davis@governor.arkansas.gov>
Cc: Chelsea O'Kelley <Chelsea.OKelley@governor.arkansas.gov>; Dinicolo, Kelly A. (CMS/OC) <Kelly.Dinicolo@cms.hhs.gov>; Cassie Williams <cassie@nahigianstrategies.com>; Danielle Hagen <danielle@nahigianstrategies.com>; Ceballos, Kelly L. (CMS/OC) <Kelly.Ceballos@cms.hhs.gov>; Wilcox, Jonathan (CMS/OA) <Jonathan.Wilcox@cms.hhs.gov>; Lynch, Calder (CMS/OA) <Calder.Lynch@cms.hhs.gov>; Brookes, Brady (CMS/OA) <Brady.Brookes@cms.hhs.gov>
Subject: RE: HOLD on Media Advisory

Hopefully not more than 30 minutes after but I cannot give you a definite time frame. I know there is planning and staffing you have to consider on your end

From: JR Davis [<mailto:JR.Davis@governor.arkansas.gov>]
Sent: Friday, March 2, 2018 4:55 PM
To: Monroe, Johnathan (CMS/OC) <Johnathan.Monroe@cms.hhs.gov>
Cc: Chelsea O'Kelley <Chelsea.OKelley@governor.arkansas.gov>; Dinicolo, Kelly A. (CMS/OC) <Kelly.Dinicolo@cms.hhs.gov>; Cassie Williams <cassie@nahigianstrategies.com>; Danielle Hagen <danielle@nahigianstrategies.com>; Ceballos, Kelly L. (CMS/OC) <Kelly.Ceballos@cms.hhs.gov>; Wilcox, Jonathan (CMS/OA) <Jonathan.Wilcox@cms.hhs.gov>
Subject: RE: HOLD on Media Advisory

For how long?

From: Monroe, Johnathan (CMS/OC) [<mailto:Johnathan.Monroe@cms.hhs.gov>]
Sent: Friday, March 02, 2018 3:54 PM
To: JR Davis <JR.Davis@governor.arkansas.gov>
Cc: Chelsea O'Kelley <Chelsea.OKelley@governor.arkansas.gov>; Dinicolo, Kelly A. (CMS/OC) <Kelly.Dinicolo@cms.hhs.gov>; Cassie Williams <cassie@nahigianstrategies.com>; Danielle Hagen <danielle@nahigianstrategies.com>; Ceballos, Kelly L. (CMS/OC) <Kelly.Ceballos@cms.hhs.gov>; Wilcox, Jonathan (CMS/OA) <Jonathan.Wilcox@cms.hhs.gov>
Subject: HOLD on Media Advisory

JR/Chelsea,

Would you all please hold on the press advisory right now?

(b)(5)

(b)(5)

Best,
Johnathan

From: Monroe, Johnathan (CMS/OC)
Sent: Friday, March 2, 2018 11:44 AM
To: 'JR Davis' <JR.Davis@governor.arkansas.gov>
Cc: Chelsea O'Kelley <Chelsea.OKelley@governor.arkansas.gov>; Dinicolo, Kelly A. (CMS/OC) <Kelly.Dinicolo@cms.hhs.gov>; Cassie Williams <cassie@nahigianstrategies.com>; Danielle Hagen <danielle@nahigianstrategies.com>; Ceballos, Kelly L. (CMS/OC) <Kelly.Ceballos@cms.hhs.gov>; Wilcox, Jonathan (CMS/OA) <jonathan.wilcox@cms.hhs.gov>
Subject: RE: Planning - Media Call Today

Thanks JR! It was in my spam folder. I appreciate that. If you don't mind we also plan on sending the press release to DC press to give you more coverage on Monday. We look forward to seeing the release. Thanks again.

From: JR Davis [<mailto:JR.Davis@governor.arkansas.gov>]
Sent: Friday, March 2, 2018 11:31 AM
To: Monroe, Johnathan (CMS/OC) <Johnathan.Monroe@cms.hhs.gov>
Cc: Chelsea O'Kelley <Chelsea.OKelley@governor.arkansas.gov>; Dinicolo, Kelly A. (CMS/OC)

<Kelly.Dinicolo@cms.hhs.gov>; Cassie Williams <cassie@nahigianstrategies.com>; Danielle Hagen <danielle@nahigianstrategies.com>; Ceballos, Kelly L. (CMS/OC) <Kelly.Ceballos@cms.hhs.gov>

Subject: Re: Planning - Media Call Today

Thanks, Johnathan. Chelsea O'Kelley sent you the updated media advisory yesterday. Let me know if you are unable to find it.

We should have the draft release to you by 12p CT.

Thanks,

J.R. Davis
Communications Director
Gov. Asa Hutchinson (AR)
C: 501.541.7036
JR.Davis@governor.arkansas.gov
@JR__Davis

On Mar 2, 2018, at 9:32 AM, Monroe, Johnathan (CMS/OC) <Johnathan.Monroe@cms.hhs.gov> wrote:

Good morning JR,
Just checking in on a couple of items:

<!--[if !supportLists]-->1. <!--[endif]-->Media Advisory w/live stream link?
We plan on sending today to DC press around 5:30 ET or shortly after you send to your state/regional press.

<!--[if !supportLists]-->2. <!--[endif]--> (b)(5)

(b)(5)

(b)(5)

From: JR Davis [<mailto:JR.Davis@governor.arkansas.gov>]

Sent: Wednesday, February 28, 2018 1:12 PM

To: Monroe, Johnathan (CMS/OC) <Johnathan.Monroe@cms.hhs.gov>; Danielle Hagen <danielle@nahigianstrategies.com>; Chelsea O'Kelley <Chelsea.OKelley@governor.arkansas.gov>

Cc: Dinicolo, Kelly A. (CMS/OC) <Kelly.Dinicolo@cms.hhs.gov>; Cassie Williams <cassie@nahigianstrategies.com>
Subject: RE: Planning - Media Call Today

Thanks, Johnathan. Really appreciate it!

From: Monroe, Johnathan (CMS/OC) [<mailto:Johnathan.Monroe@cms.hhs.gov>]
Sent: Wednesday, February 28, 2018 10:56 AM
To: JR Davis <JR.Davis@governor.arkansas.gov>; Danielle Hagen <danielle@nahigianstrategies.com>; Chelsea O'Kelley <Chelsea.OKelley@governor.arkansas.gov>
Cc: Dinicolo, Kelly A. (CMS/OC) <Kelly.Dinicolo@cms.hhs.gov>; Cassie Williams <cassie@nahigianstrategies.com>
Subject: RE: Planning - Media Call Today

JR,

Please see below the approved language for the media advisory in yellow and an example of what Indiana did. Underlined emphasis on the critical language. I owe you the following:

<!--[if !supportLists]-->1. <!--[endif]-->**Media Advisory Language-** DONE-
Below
<!--[if !supportLists]-->2. <!--[endif]-->**Examples of Indiana/Kentucky Press Releases:** DONE-
<!--[if !supportLists]-->a. <!--[endif]-->Indiana/HHS Joint Press
Release: <https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2018/02/02/hhs-approves-new-healthy-indiana-medicaid-demonstration.html>
<!--[if !supportLists]-->b. <!--[endif]-->Kentucky Release: Attached
<!--[if !supportLists]-->3. <!--[endif]-->**Messaging and Language on how CMS talks about the Community Engagement-**Expect that by 3 pm ET
<!--[if !supportLists]-->4. <!--[endif]-->**Quote from the Administrator-** Still drafting and sending through our clearance process. Should have it by 3 p.m. ET Friday to plug into your release.

Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns.

Best,
Johnathan

INDIANAPOLIS – Indiana Governor Eric J. Holcomb will join U.S. Health and Human Services (HHS) Secretary Alex Azar and Indiana Secretary of Family and Social Services Administration (FSSA) Dr. Jennifer Walthall at the Sidney & Lois Eskenazi Hospital in Indianapolis tomorrow, Feb. 2, 2018 at 2:30 p.m. ET **for an announcement and media availability.**

Media (including reporters, cameramen, etc.) wishing to attend must RSVP to

rhoffmeyer@gov.in.gov or reply to this email by 10:30 a.m. ET Friday, Feb. 2 and come prepared to show identification.

WHAT: Press Conference

WHO: U.S. HHS Secretary Alex Azar
Indiana Gov. Eric J. Holcomb
Indiana FSSA Secretary Jennifer Walthall, MD, MPH

WHEN: Friday, Feb. 2, 2018
Roundtable 1:15 p.m. ET
Media are welcome to take photos and b-roll of the roundtable for the first five minutes.
Press Conference 2:30 p.m. ET

WHERE: Sidney & Lois Eskenazi Hospital
720 Eskenazi Ave.
Indianapolis, IN 46202
Faegre Baker Daniels Conference Room A

PARKING: Media parking will be available along Dr. Harvey Middleton Way near the main entrance of the Sidney & Lois Eskenazi Hospital, 720 Eskenazi Ave. Eskenazi Health security will direct media to the correct parking location.

From: JR Davis [<mailto:JR.Davis@governor.arkansas.gov>]
Sent: Wednesday, February 28, 2018 11:40 AM
To: Danielle Hagen <danielle@nahigianstrategies.com>; Chelsea O'Kelley <Chelsea.OKelley@governor.arkansas.gov>
Cc: Dinicolo, Kelly A. (CMS/OC) <Kelly.Dinicolo@cms.hhs.gov>; Monroe, Johnathan (CMS/OC) <Johnathan.Monroe@cms.hhs.gov>; Cassie Williams <cassie@nahigianstrategies.com>
Subject: RE: Planning - Media Call Today

Danielle, can you all send over preferred language for media advisory and release? My team will have the draft media advisory to you by the end of the day for review. We plan to push that out Friday.

Also working to get you all the media list for planning purposes. Should have it to you soon.

Thanks!

JR

From: JR Davis

Sent: Tuesday, February 27, 2018 12:23 PM

To: 'Danielle Hagen' <danielle@nahigianstrategies.com>; Chelsea O'Kelley <Chelsea.OKelley@governor.arkansas.gov>

Cc: Dinicolo, Kelly A. (CMS/OC) <Kelly.Dinicolo@cms.hhs.gov>; Monroe, Johnathan (CMS/OC) <Johnathan.Monroe@cms.hhs.gov>; Cassie Williams <cassie@nahigianstrategies.com>

Subject: RE: Planning - Media Call Today

Sounds great. And thank you for taking the time, as well.

From: Danielle Hagen [<mailto:danielle@nahigianstrategies.com>]

Sent: Tuesday, February 27, 2018 11:42 AM

To: JR Davis <JR.Davis@governor.arkansas.gov>; Chelsea O'Kelley <Chelsea.OKelley@governor.arkansas.gov>

Cc: Dinicolo, Kelly A. (CMS/OC) <Kelly.Dinicolo@cms.hhs.gov>; Monroe, Johnathan (CMS/OC) <Johnathan.Monroe@cms.hhs.gov>; Cassie Williams <cassie@nahigianstrategies.com>

Subject: Planning - Media Call Today

J.R. and Chelsea,

Thank you so much for your time today to talk through the media materials and coordination. Putting us all on one email chain so we can share information.

Thank you!

Danielle



Danielle Hagen
Senior Vice President
nahigian strategies, llc
202.280.2003 (o)
(b)(6) (m)
www.nahigianstrategies.com

From: [JR Davis](#)
To: [Monroe, Johnathan \(CMS/OC\)](#)
Cc: [Chelsea O'Kelley](#); [Dinicolo, Kelly A. \(CMS/OC\)](#); [Cassie Williams](#); [Danielle Hagen](#); [Ceballos, Kelly L. \(CMS/OC\)](#); [Wilcox, Jonathan \(CMS/OA\)](#); [Lynch, Calder \(CMS/OA\)](#); [Brookes, Brady \(CMS/OA\)](#); [Katie Beck](#)
Subject: RE: RE: HOLD on Media Advisory
Date: Sunday, March 4, 2018 3:42:58 PM
Attachments: [Confirmed.xlsx](#)

Attached is the final list of confirmed media outlets and reporters for Monday's 11a CT news conference. If more reach out before tomorrow, I'll add their names and send an updated version.

NOTE: Only ONE of the five highlighted photographers from the Democrat-Gazette will be in attendance, but they weren't sure which one it would be as of today.

Let me know if you all need anything else.

J.R.

From: Monroe, Johnathan (CMS/OC) [mailto:Johnathan.Monroe@cms.hhs.gov]
Sent: Friday, March 02, 2018 3:57 PM
To: JR Davis <JR.Davis@governor.arkansas.gov>
Cc: Chelsea O'Kelley <Chelsea.OKelley@governor.arkansas.gov>; Dinicolo, Kelly A. (CMS/OC) <Kelly.Dinicolo@cms.hhs.gov>; Cassie Williams <cassie@nahigianstrategies.com>; Danielle Hagen <danielle@nahigianstrategies.com>; Ceballos, Kelly L. (CMS/OC) <Kelly.Ceballos@cms.hhs.gov>; Wilcox, Jonathan (CMS/OA) <Jonathan.Wilcox@cms.hhs.gov>; Lynch, Calder (CMS/OA) <Calder.Lynch@cms.hhs.gov>; Brookes, Brady (CMS/OA) <Brady.Brookes@cms.hhs.gov>
Subject: RE: HOLD on Media Advisory

Hopefully not more than 30 minutes after but I cannot give you a definite time frame. I know there is planning and staffing you have to consider on your end

From: JR Davis [mailto:JR.Davis@governor.arkansas.gov]
Sent: Friday, March 2, 2018 4:55 PM
To: Monroe, Johnathan (CMS/OC) <Johnathan.Monroe@cms.hhs.gov>
Cc: Chelsea O'Kelley <Chelsea.OKelley@governor.arkansas.gov>; Dinicolo, Kelly A. (CMS/OC) <Kelly.Dinicolo@cms.hhs.gov>; Cassie Williams <cassie@nahigianstrategies.com>; Danielle Hagen <danielle@nahigianstrategies.com>; Ceballos, Kelly L. (CMS/OC) <Kelly.Ceballos@cms.hhs.gov>; Wilcox, Jonathan (CMS/OA) <Jonathan.Wilcox@cms.hhs.gov>
Subject: RE: HOLD on Media Advisory

For how long?

From: Monroe, Johnathan (CMS/OC) [mailto:Johnathan.Monroe@cms.hhs.gov]
Sent: Friday, March 02, 2018 3:54 PM
To: JR Davis <JR.Davis@governor.arkansas.gov>
Cc: Chelsea O'Kelley <Chelsea.OKelley@governor.arkansas.gov>; Dinicolo, Kelly A. (CMS/OC)

<Kelly.Dinicolo@cms.hhs.gov>; Cassie Williams <cassie@nahigianstrategies.com>; Danielle Hagen <danielle@nahigianstrategies.com>; Ceballos, Kelly L. (CMS/OC) <Kelly.Ceballos@cms.hhs.gov>; Wilcox, Jonathan (CMS/OA) <Jonathan.Wilcox@cms.hhs.gov>

Subject: HOLD on Media Advisory

JR/Chelsea,

Would you all please hold on the press advisory right now?

(b)(5)

(b)(5)

Best,
Johnathan

From: Monroe, Johnathan (CMS/OC)

Sent: Friday, March 2, 2018 11:44 AM

To: 'JR Davis' <JR.Davis@governor.arkansas.gov>

Cc: Chelsea O'Kelley <Chelsea.OKelley@governor.arkansas.gov>; Dinicolo, Kelly A. (CMS/OC) <Kelly.Dinicolo@cms.hhs.gov>; Cassie Williams <cassie@nahigianstrategies.com>; Danielle Hagen <danielle@nahigianstrategies.com>; Ceballos, Kelly L. (CMS/OC) <Kelly.Ceballos@cms.hhs.gov>; Wilcox, Jonathan (CMS/OA) <jonathan.wilcox@cms.hhs.gov>

Subject: RE: Planning - Media Call Today

Thanks JR! It was in my spam folder. I appreciate that. If you don't mind we also plan on sending the press release to DC press to give you more coverage on Monday. We look forward to seeing the release. Thanks again.

From: JR Davis [<mailto:JR.Davis@governor.arkansas.gov>]

Sent: Friday, March 2, 2018 11:31 AM

To: Monroe, Johnathan (CMS/OC) <Johnathan.Monroe@cms.hhs.gov>

Cc: Chelsea O'Kelley <Chelsea.OKelley@governor.arkansas.gov>; Dinicolo, Kelly A. (CMS/OC) <Kelly.Dinicolo@cms.hhs.gov>; Cassie Williams <cassie@nahigianstrategies.com>; Danielle Hagen <danielle@nahigianstrategies.com>; Ceballos, Kelly L. (CMS/OC) <Kelly.Ceballos@cms.hhs.gov>

Subject: Re: Planning - Media Call Today

Thanks, Johnathan. Chelsea O'Kelley sent you the updated media advisory yesterday. Let me know if you are unable to find it.

We should have the draft release to you by 12p CT.

Thanks,

J.R. Davis
Communications Director
Gov. Asa Hutchinson (AR)
C: 501.541.7036
JR.Davis@governor.arkansas.gov

@JR__Davis

On Mar 2, 2018, at 9:32 AM, Monroe, Johnathan (CMS/OC)
<Johnathan.Monroe@cms.hhs.gov> wrote:

Good morning JR,
Just checking in on a couple of items:

1. Media Advisory w/live stream link? We plan on sending today to DC press around 5:30 ET or shortly after you send to your state/regional press.
- 2.

(b)(5)

(b)(5)

From: JR Davis [<mailto:JR.Davis@governor.arkansas.gov>]
Sent: Wednesday, February 28, 2018 1:12 PM
To: Monroe, Johnathan (CMS/OC) <Johnathan.Monroe@cms.hhs.gov>; Danielle Hagen <danielle@nahigianstrategies.com>; Chelsea O'Kelley <Chelsea.OKelley@governor.arkansas.gov>
Cc: Dinicolo, Kelly A. (CMS/OC) <Kelly.Dinicolo@cms.hhs.gov>; Cassie Williams <cassie@nahigianstrategies.com>
Subject: RE: Planning - Media Call Today

Thanks, Johnathan. Really appreciate it!

From: Monroe, Johnathan (CMS/OC) [<mailto:Johnathan.Monroe@cms.hhs.gov>]
Sent: Wednesday, February 28, 2018 10:56 AM
To: JR Davis <JR.Davis@governor.arkansas.gov>; Danielle Hagen <danielle@nahigianstrategies.com>; Chelsea O'Kelley <Chelsea.OKelley@governor.arkansas.gov>
Cc: Dinicolo, Kelly A. (CMS/OC) <Kelly.Dinicolo@cms.hhs.gov>; Cassie Williams <cassie@nahigianstrategies.com>
Subject: RE: Planning - Media Call Today

JR,
Please see below the approved language for the media advisory in yellow and an

example of what Indiana did. Underlined emphasis on the critical language. I owe you the following:

1. **Media Advisory Language-** DONE-Below
2. **Examples of Indiana/Kentucky Press Releases:** DONE-
 - a. Indiana/HHS Joint Press Release:
<https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2018/02/02/hhs-approves-new-healthy-indiana-medicaid-demonstration.html>
 - b. Kentucky Release: Attached
3. **Messaging and Language on how CMS talks about the Community Engagement-**Expect that by 3 pm ET
4. **Quote from the Administrator-** Still drafting and sending through our clearance process. Should have it by 3 p.m. ET Friday to plug into your release.

Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns.

Best,
Johnathan

INDIANAPOLIS – Indiana Governor Eric J. Holcomb will join U.S. Health and Human Services (HHS) Secretary Alex Azar and Indiana Secretary of Family and Social Services Administration (FSSA) Dr. Jennifer Walthall at the Sidney & Lois Eskenazi Hospital in **Indianapolis tomorrow, Feb. 2, 2018 at 2:30 p.m. ET for an announcement and media availability.**

Media (including reporters, cameramen, etc.) wishing to attend must RSVP to rhoffmeyer@gov.in.gov or reply to this email by 10:30 a.m. ET Friday, Feb. 2 and come prepared to show identification.

WHAT: Press Conference

WHO: U.S. HHS Secretary Alex Azar
Indiana Gov. Eric J. Holcomb
Indiana FSSA Secretary Jennifer Walthall, MD, MPH

WHEN: Friday, Feb. 2, 2018
Roundtable 1:15 p.m. ET
Media are welcome to take photos and b-roll of the roundtable for the first five minutes.
Press Conference 2:30 p.m. ET

WHERE: Sidney & Lois Eskenazi Hospital
720 Eskenazi Ave.
Indianapolis, IN 46202
Faegre Baker Daniels Conference Room A

PARKING: Media parking will be available along Dr. Harvey Middleton

Way near the main entrance of the Sidney & Lois Eskenazi Hospital, 720 Eskenazi Ave. Eskenazi Health security will direct media to the correct parking location.

From: JR Davis [<mailto:JR.Davis@governor.arkansas.gov>]
Sent: Wednesday, February 28, 2018 11:40 AM
To: Danielle Hagen <danielle@nahigianstrategies.com>; Chelsea O'Kelley <Chelsea.OKelley@governor.arkansas.gov>
Cc: Dinicolo, Kelly A. (CMS/OC) <Kelly.Dinicolo@cms.hhs.gov>; Monroe, Johnathan (CMS/OC) <Johnathan.Monroe@cms.hhs.gov>; Cassie Williams <cassie@nahigianstrategies.com>
Subject: RE: Planning - Media Call Today

Danielle, can you all send over preferred language for media advisory and release? My team will have the draft media advisory to you by the end of the day for review. We plan to push that out Friday.

Also working to get you all the media list for planning purposes. Should have it to you soon.

Thanks!

JR

From: JR Davis
Sent: Tuesday, February 27, 2018 12:23 PM
To: 'Danielle Hagen' <danielle@nahigianstrategies.com>; Chelsea O'Kelley <Chelsea.OKelley@governor.arkansas.gov>
Cc: Dinicolo, Kelly A. (CMS/OC) <Kelly.Dinicolo@cms.hhs.gov>; Monroe, Johnathan (CMS/OC) <Johnathan.Monroe@cms.hhs.gov>; Cassie Williams <cassie@nahigianstrategies.com>
Subject: RE: Planning - Media Call Today

Sounds great. And thank you for taking the time, as well.

From: Danielle Hagen [<mailto:danielle@nahigianstrategies.com>]
Sent: Tuesday, February 27, 2018 11:42 AM
To: JR Davis <JR.Davis@governor.arkansas.gov>; Chelsea O'Kelley <Chelsea.OKelley@governor.arkansas.gov>
Cc: Dinicolo, Kelly A. (CMS/OC) <Kelly.Dinicolo@cms.hhs.gov>; Monroe, Johnathan (CMS/OC) <Johnathan.Monroe@cms.hhs.gov>; Cassie Williams <cassie@nahigianstrategies.com>
Subject: Planning - Media Call Today

J.R. and Chelsea,

Thank you so much for your time today to talk through the media materials and coordination. Putting us all on one email chain so we can share information.

Thank you!

Danielle



Danielle Hagen
Senior Vice President
nahigian strategies, llc
202.280.2003 (o)
(b)(6) (m)
www.nahigianstrategies.com

Email	First Name	Last Name	City
ademillo@ap.org	Andrew	DeMillo	Little Rock
kkissel@ap.org	Kelly	Kissel	Little Rock
adavis@arkansasonline.com	Andy	Davis	Little Rock
mwickline@arkansasonline.com	Mike	Wickline	Little Rock
jmoritz@arkansasonline.com	John	Moritz	Little Rock
hfield@arkansasonline.com	Hunter	Field	Little Rock
	Staton	Breidenthal	Little Rock
	Tommy	Metthe	Little Rock
	Ben	Krain	Little Rock
	Mitchell	Pe Masilun	Little Rock
jeffmitchell@arkansasonline.com	Jeff	Mitchell	Little Rock
benji.hardy@gmail.com	Benji	Hardy	Little Rock
	Brian	Chilson	Little Rock
msglisovic@sbgstv.com	Marine	Glisovic	Little Rock
	Rich	Newman	Little Rock
roby@talkbusiness.net	Roby	Brock	Little Rock
brawnersteve@mac.com	Steve	Brawner	Little Rock
wesbrocomm@gmail.com	Wes	Brown	Little Rock
jacob@kuar.org	Jacob	Kauffman	Little Rock
michael@kuar.org	Michael	Hibblen	Little Rock
johnnyray1004@sbcglobal.net	John	Brummett	Little Rock
rhoyt@thv11.com	Rowland	Hoyt	Little Rock
	John	Young	Little Rock
bobby@arkansaspublicmedia.org	Bobby	Ampezzan	Little Rock
TV Stations Confirmed			
news@todaysthv.com			Little Rock
news4@kark.com			Little Rock
news@fox16.com			Little Rock
news@katv.com			Little Rock
Other Confirmed Through Live Stream			
Email	First Name	Last Name	City
Tami.Luhby@turner.com	Tami	Luhby	New York, NY
dpetrimoulx@nexstar.tv	Drew	Petrimoulx	Washington, D.C.
flockwood@arkansasonline.com	Frank	Lockwood	Washington, D.C.
news@4029tv.com			Rogers, AR
news@knwa.com			Fayetteville, AR
news@kfsm.com			Fort Smith, AR
news@kait8.com			Jonesboro, AR
dave@salemlr.com	Dave	Elswick	Little Rock
newsroom@karnnewsradio.com			Little Rock
rpradhan@politico.com	Rachana	Pradhan	Washington, D.C.

Name of Outlet	Position
Associated Press	Reporter
Associated Press	Reporter
Arkansas Democrat Gazette	Healthcare Reporter
Arkansas Democrat Gazette	Lead Capitol Reporter
Arkansas Democrat Gazette	Capitol Reporter
Arkansas Democrat Gazette	Capitol Reporter
Arkansas Democrat Gazette	Photographer
Arkansas Democrat Gazette	Photographer
Arkansas Democrat Gazette	Photographer
Arkansas Democrat Gazette	Photographer
Arkansas Democrat Gazette	Photographer
Arkansas Times	Reporter
Arkansas Times	Photographer
KATV	Reporter
KATV	Photographer
Talk Business and Politics	Owner, Reporter, Editor - Sunday News Host on KATV
Talk Business and Politics	
Talk Business and Politics	Reporter
KUAR - NPR Radio	Reporter
KUAR - NPR Radio	Reporter
Arkansas Democrat Gazette	Longtime Columnist
KTHV (CBS)	Reporter
KTHV (CBS)	Photographer
Arkansas Public Media (Radio)	Reporter
KTHV (CBS)	
KARK (NBC) - Fox 16	
Fox 16 - KARK (NBC)	
KATV (ABC)	
Name of Outlet	Position
CNN Money	Senior Writer
Nexstar - KARK, KAIT, KNWA	Washington Correspondent
Arkansas Democrat Gazette	Washington Correspondent
KHBS 40/29 (ABC)	
KNWA/Fox 24 (NBC/Fox)	
KFSM (CBS)	
KAIT (ABC)	
Dave Elswick Show - 96.5FM The Answer	Radio Host
KARN News Radio	
Politico	Healthcare Reporter

From: [Katie Beck](#)
To: [Brookes, Brady \(CMS/OA\)](#); [Lynch, Calder \(CMS/OA\)](#)
Subject: Thank you!
Date: Wednesday, March 7, 2018 5:27:58 PM

Brady/Calder -

I wanted to express our thanks and appreciation for all your hard work throughout our waiver approval process.

Also thought you would be pleased to know that the AR Works appropriation cleared our Senate yesterday afternoon. The waiver announcement Monday helped secure the final two votes needed.

The following story was on the front page of the AR Democrat Gazette today.

<http://www.arkansasonline.com/news/2018/mar/07/medicaid-expansion-funding-clears-senat/>

Best,

Katie Beck
Director of State-Federal Relations
Office of Governor Asa Hutchinson
444 North Capitol St, NW Suite 365
Washington, DC 20001
(O): 202-220-1329
(C): (b)(6)

From: [Katie Beck](#)
To: [Brookes, Brady \(CMS/OA\)](#); [Lynch, Calder \(CMS/OA\)](#)
Subject: FW: FW: draft draft AW press release for tomorrow
Date: Wednesday, September 12, 2018 10:25:56 AM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image005.png](#)
[image006.png](#)
[image007.png](#)
[image008.png](#)
[image009.png](#)
[180912 PR AW.docx](#)
[Monthly Enrollment and Expenditure Report 09112018.pdf](#)

Brady/Calder -

Please see attached draft release and report for today's press conference. Happy to chat at any point today.

Katie Beck
Director of State-Federal Relations
Office of Governor Asa Hutchinson
444 North Capitol St, NW Suite 365
Washington, DC 20001
(O): 202-220-1329
(C) (b)(6)

From: JR Davis <JR.Davis@governor.arkansas.gov>
Date: Wednesday, September 12, 2018 at 9:05 AM
To: Katie Beck <katie.beck@governor.arkansas.gov>
Subject: FW: draft draft AW press release for tomorrow

Very much a draft, but here you go!

From: Amy Webb <Amy.Webb@dhs.arkansas.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, September 11, 2018 8:34 PM
To: JR Davis <JR.Davis@governor.arkansas.gov>; Catherine Kelley <catherine.kelley@governor.arkansas.gov>
Subject: draft draft AW press release for tomorrow

J.R. and Catherine,

Attached is our draft release and the monthly Medicaid enrollment and expenditure report. Still working on the fact sheet and won't have the ARWorks report until sometime late morning. Note: The lawyers haven't approved the press release but wanted to go ahead and get to you. If they have changes I will let you know. Also, I want to triple check the numbers before we release (been a long day and I don't trust my math!). and we put in a placeholder quote for Governor just to handle flow.
Amy

--

Amy Webb | Arkansas Department of Human Services
Office of Communications and Community Engagement | Chief of Communications and

Community Engagement

501.682-8946 – desk | (b)(6) – mobile | amy.webb@dhs.arkansas.gov



<!--[if !vml]--><!--[endif]--><!--[if !vml]--><!--[endif]-->



NOTE – This email may contain sensitive or confidential information.

The Arkansas Department of Human Services has determined that this message may contain confidential or otherwise protected information. We have used transport encryption to help protect this message while in transit to you. Please take all reasonable measures to protect any protected or confidential data that might be in this message, including the limitation of re-disclosure to the minimum number of recipients necessary. Please report any inappropriate disclosure to <https://dhs.arkansas.gov/ost/contactforms/ContactUs.aspx> or as required by law.

For Immediate Release:

September 12, 2018

Coverage Closures for AR Works Recipients Who Did Not Meet Work and Community Engagement Requirement for Three Months

43,655 meeting work requirement or exempt from reporting, 4,353 closed

(LITTLE ROCK, Ark.) – The Arkansas Department of Human Services (DHS) has closed 4,353 cases of Arkansas Works Medicaid coverage because those individuals did not report activities under the new work and community engagement requirement for the last three months as required. Another 43,655 AR Works enrollees met the work requirement through work, reporting activities, or having a recognized exemption from reporting.

From April through August, DHS and its outreach partners conducted extensive outreach and education efforts that included sending more than 136,000 letters and emails; making more than 150,000 phone calls, dozens of social media posts, thousands of text messages, and even going door-to-door talking with beneficiaries who were required to report their activities to meet the work requirement. Staff at DHS also has conducted more than thirty webinars, trainings, and information sessions for stakeholders and advocacy groups and put thousands of educational postcards in doctors' offices and emergency rooms.

In addition, DHS has created processes for those without computers or Internet access to get help reporting their activities, including by calling their insurance carrier for help from a registered reporter who can enter activities and exemptions relayed by individuals over the phone. Every DHS county office also has at least one computer available for reporting activities and staff on hand to assist those who need it.

"The state has taken the steps it can to ensure that those who want to succeed under the work and community engagement requirement have that opportunity. We want to see those who qualify stay on the program and those who don't be removed," said Arkansas Governor Asa Hutchinson. "State and federal funds are paying the premiums for everyone's coverage in this program, and those expected to report are able-bodied people without children or other dependents. We must make sure the limited resources we have are focused on those who need it most. Those who choose not to comply have that right, but ultimately there are consequences for that decision."

Resources have been and remain available to those AR Works beneficiaries who need assistance in completing activities that meet the work and community engagement requirement. Those resources include:

- Free job services from the Department of Workforce Services
- Education cost assistance through the Arkansas Department of Higher Education, especially for high-demand career fields.
- Volunteer opportunities in communities across Arkansas via the Volunteer AR website,

- SNAP Employment & Training (E&T) programs in dozens of counties across the state

“We have heard success stories of individuals in Arkansas Works who accessed those resources,” said DHS Director Cindy Gillespie. “People are completing their GEDs and attending vocational training after connecting with SNAP E&T. They are attending nursing school after going to DWS, receiving a skills assessment, and deciding where their career should take them. Those are the outcomes we hoped to see.”

The work and community engagement requirement is intended to increase people’s economic self-sufficiency by promoting work, education, and community engagement activities. The hope is those activities will help people move up the economic ladder and no longer need state services for their healthcare needs.

Individuals who lost coverage at the end of August did not meet the work requirement for three consecutive months. Those enrollees will be ineligible for coverage for the remainder of the calendar year through the AR Works program. However, if their life circumstances change they may be eligible for a different Medicaid category, such as for pregnant women.

DRAFT

OVERSIGHT















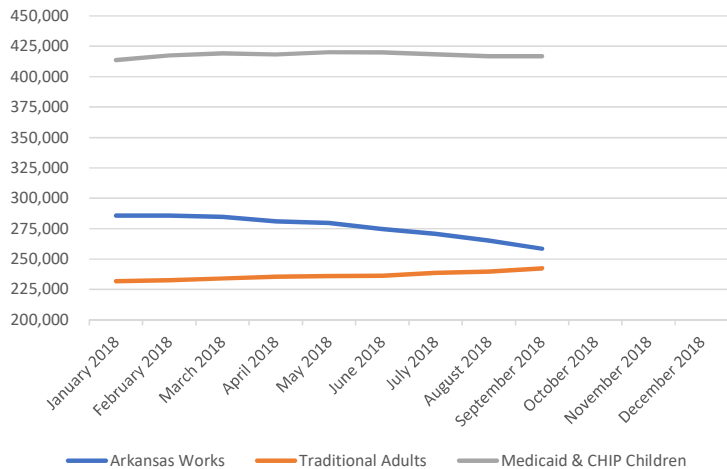
Arkansas Department of Human Services Monthly Enrollment and Expenditures Report Calendar Year 2018

Enrollment at 1st Day of Month

	Arkansas Works	Traditional Adults	Medicaid & CHIP Children	Total
January 2018	285,564	231,811	413,631	931,006
February 2018	285,781	232,494	417,588	935,863
March 2018	284,670	233,980	419,298	937,948
April 2018	281,033	235,436	418,278	934,747
May 2018	279,602	236,036	420,117	935,755
June 2018	274,810	236,377	420,012	931,199
July 2018	270,676	238,658	418,472	927,806
August 2018	265,223	239,635	417,003	921,861
September 2018	258,519	242,434	416,917	917,870
October 2018				0
November 2018				0
December 2018				0

NOTE: Enrollment numbers are based on report ran on the first Monday after the claim cycle that includes in the first day of the month.

Enrollment at 1st Day of Month

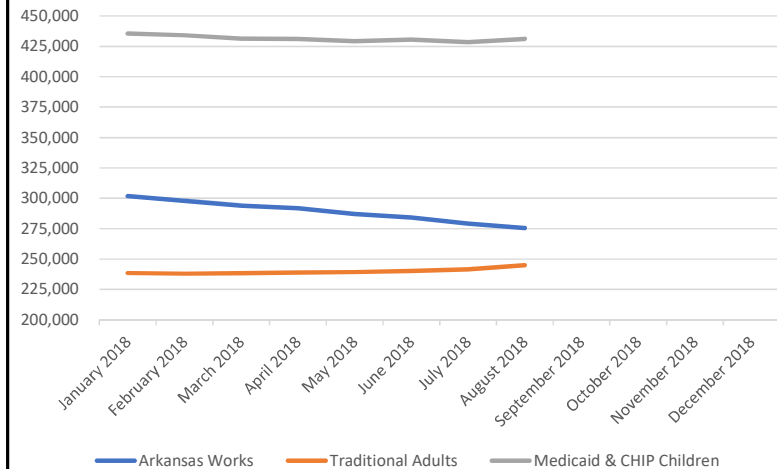


Enrollment as of the Last Day of the Month

	Arkansas Works	Traditional Adults	Medicaid & CHIP Children	Total
January 2018	301,745	238,575	435,431	975,751
February 2018	297,980	238,015	433,968	969,963
March 2018	293,991	238,355	431,412	963,758
April 2018	291,816	238,988	431,239	962,043
May 2018	287,109	239,220	429,146	955,475
June 2018	284,031	240,347	430,619	954,997
July 2018	279,285	241,720	428,469	949,474
August 2018	275,600	244,974	431,088	951,662
September 2018				0
October 2018				0
November 2018				0
December 2018				0

NOTE: Enrollment numbers are based on report ran on the first Monday after the claim cycle that includes in the first day of the month. January through March 2018 End of the Month Enrollment numbers were ran on April 17, 2018.

Enrollment as of the Last Day of the Month





**Arkansas Department of Human Services
Monthly Enrollment and Expenditures Report
Calendar Year 2018**

Total Spend Per Month - Arkansas Works 1115 Demonstration Premium Assistance Program

	Arkansas Works	Arkansas Works Premiums	Arkansas Works Cost Sharing	Arkansas Works Wrap Services	Total Arkansas Works QHP Program	Arkansas Works PMPM QHP Program	Reconciliation Payments & Non-Claim Adjustments	Arkansas Works PMPM QHP Program After Reconciliations
January 2018	235,437	\$112,870,836.96	\$24,221,653.98	\$926,401.80	\$138,018,892.74	\$586.22	\$21,544,198.06	\$677.73
February 2018	225,056	\$107,589,352.16	\$22,798,645.07	\$870,559.85	\$131,258,557.08	\$583.23	\$4,518,359.77	\$603.30
March 2018	237,684	\$110,390,898.75	\$23,354,022.63	\$913,747.85	\$134,658,669.23	\$566.54	\$2,117,102.62	\$575.45
April 2018	241,839	\$112,233,168.97	\$23,766,019.63	\$930,258.42	\$136,929,447.02	\$566.20	(\$414,214.40)	\$564.49
May 2018	239,047	\$110,389,246.51	\$23,376,907.68	\$916,424.13	\$134,682,578.32	\$563.41	(\$1,628,130.19)	\$556.60
June 2018	237,309	\$109,671,985.95	\$23,214,181.32	\$927,870.51	\$133,814,037.78	\$563.88	(\$397,856.27)	\$562.20
July 2018	235,557	\$110,173,117.39	\$23,316,499.47	\$959,054.28	\$134,448,671.14	\$570.77	\$1,705,508.14	\$578.01
August 2018	227,846	\$106,113,408.32	\$22,599,748.59	\$925,308.24	\$129,638,465.15	\$568.97	(\$1,618,812.91)	\$561.87
September 2018								
October 2018								
November 2018								
December 2018								

NOTE: Arkansas Works program has reconciliations done on a periodic basis for cost sharing reduction payments and premium payments made for individuals above 100% FPL. These payments are not included in the claims processing payments due to the material impact on a per member per month amount in the month paid despite the payments being made for previous months.

Total Spend Per Month - Fee For Service

	Newly Eligible	Fee for Service Payments	Newly Eligible FFS PMPM	Traditional FFS	Traditional Medicaid Fee for Service Payments	Traditional Medicaid Fee For Service	Combined Fee For Service	Combined Fee for Service Payments	
January 2018	66,308	\$21,197,260.20	\$319.68	674,006	\$368,101,420.00	\$546.14	740,314	\$389,298,680.20	\$525.86
February 2018	72,924	\$24,428,510.15	\$334.99	671,983	\$437,178,706.00	\$650.58	744,907	\$461,607,216.15	\$619.68
March 2018	56,307	\$29,198,365.15	\$518.56	669,767	\$526,677,041.00	\$786.36	726,074	\$555,875,406.15	\$765.59
April 2018	49,977	\$20,737,726.58	\$414.95	670,227	\$366,389,634.00	\$546.66	720,204	\$387,127,360.58	\$537.52
May 2018	48,062	\$36,510,012.87	\$759.64	668,366	\$598,142,216.00	\$894.93	716,428	\$634,652,228.87	\$885.86
June 2018	46,722	\$18,441,529.49	\$394.71	670,966	\$417,246,278.00	\$621.86	717,688	\$435,687,807.49	\$607.07
July 2018	43,728	\$18,613,366.72	\$425.66	670,189	\$471,981,235.00	\$704.25	713,917	\$490,594,601.72	\$687.19
August 2018	47,754	\$23,332,680.76	\$488.60	676,062	\$413,585,032.00	\$611.76	723,816	\$436,917,712.76	\$603.63
September 2018									
October 2018									
November 2018									
December 2018									

NOTE: Fee for service per member per month fluctuates due to timing of claims being paid. Additionally, payment of non-claims activity such as supplemental payments and disproportionate share hospital payments can significantly alter the per member per month amount for the month those payments are made.

From: [Katie Beck](#)
To: [Brookes, Brady \(CMS/OA\)](#); [Lynch, Calder \(CMS/OA\)](#)
Subject: Fwd: Fwd: Coverage Closures for Arkansas Works Recipients Who Did Not Meet Work & Community Engagement Requirement for Three Months
Date: Wednesday, September 12, 2018 3:41:27 PM

Making sure you both have the final release

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Governor Asa Hutchinson" <press@governor.arkansas.gov>
Date: September 12, 2018 at 2:30:10 PM CDT
To: katie.beck@governor.arkansas.gov
Subject: Coverage Closures for Arkansas Works Recipients Who Did Not Meet Work & Community Engagement Requirement for Three Months
Reply-To: press@governor.arkansas.gov

Governor Asa Hutchinson



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

September 12, 2018

**Coverage Closures for Arkansas Works Recipients Who Did Not Meet
Work & Community Engagement Requirement for Three Months**
43,655 meeting work requirement or exempt from reporting, 4,353 closed

LITTLE ROCK – The Arkansas Department of Human Services (DHS) has closed 4,353 cases of Arkansas Works Medicaid coverage because those individuals did not report activities under the new work and community engagement requirement for three months. Another 43,655 Arkansas Works enrollees met the work requirement through work, reporting activities, or having a recognized exemption from reporting.

From April through August, DHS and its outreach partners conducted extensive outreach and education efforts that included sending more than 136,000 letters and emails; making more than 150,000 phone calls, dozens of social media posts, thousands of text messages, and even going door-to-door talking with beneficiaries who were required to report their activities to meet the work requirement. Staff at DHS also has conducted more than thirty webinars, trainings, and information sessions for stakeholders and advocacy groups and put thousands of educational postcards in doctors' offices and emergency rooms.

In addition, DHS has created processes for those without computers or Internet access to get help reporting their activities, including calling their insurance carrier for help from a registered reporter who can enter activities and exemptions relayed by individuals over the phone. Every DHS county office across the state also has at least one computer available for reporting activities and staff on hand to assist those who need it.

“While many fully complied by taking advantage of work opportunities under the work requirement, there were some that either found work, moved onto other insurance, or moved out of state without notifying DHS,” said Governor Hutchinson. “Some simply chose not to comply. Those are the ones who will lose their Arkansas Works coverage for the remainder of 2018.

“Personal responsibility is important. We will continue to do everything we can to ensure those who qualify for the program keep their coverage, but it is equally important that we make sure those who no longer qualify are removed,” added the Governor. “Arkansas Works is not a fee for service program, which means taxpayers are paying health insurance premiums for all enrollees every month, averaging roughly \$570 a month, per person. This work requirement not only provides Arkansans with an opportunity to gain employment and move up the economic ladder, but also allows the state to concentrate our limited resources on those who need it most.”

Resources have been and remain available to those Arkansas Works beneficiaries who need assistance in completing activities that meet the work and community engagement requirement. Those resources include:

- Free job services from the Department of Workforce Services
- Education cost assistance through the Arkansas Department of Higher Education, especially for high-demand career fields
- Volunteer opportunities in communities across Arkansas via the Volunteer AR website
- SNAP Employment & Training (E&T) programs in dozens of counties across the state

“We have heard success stories of individuals in Arkansas Works who accessed those resources,” said DHS Director Cindy Gillespie. “People are completing their GEDs and attending vocational training after connecting with SNAP E&T. They are receiving skills assessments after going to DWS, attending nursing school, and deciding where their career should take them. Those are the outcomes we hoped to see.”

The work and community engagement requirement is intended to increase people’s overall health, well-being, and economic self-sufficiency by promoting work, education, and community engagement activities. The hope is those activities will help people live healthier lives as they move up the economic ladder.

Individuals who lost coverage at the end of August did not meet the work requirement for three months. Those enrollees will be ineligible for coverage for the remainder of the calendar year through the Arkansas Works program. However, if their life circumstances change they may be eligible for a different Medicaid eligibility category, such as for pregnant women or disability.

“This work requirement provides an opportunity for both government and the citizenry,” said Arkansas Department of Workforce Services Director Daryl Bassett. “It mandates that

government invest in its citizen's capabilities in a manner that holds both parties accountable. It provides an opportunity for the worker to provide for themselves and their families in Arkansas's rapidly changing economic environment. Yet, it encourages the state to think 'outside of the box' to provide new opportunities for these workers as those opportunities appear through our economic development initiatives, and that benefits both sides."

For downloadable copies of the August 2018 Arkansas Works Work & Community Engagement Report, an Arkansas Works Fact Sheet, and the Medicaid Monthly Report, [please visit this link](#).

Governor's Media Contact: Press Shop (press@governor.arkansas.gov or 501.683.6439)

DHS Media Contact: Amy Webb, Chief of Communications (Amy.Webb@dhs.arkansas.gov);
Marci Manley, Deputy Chief of Communications (Marci.Manley@dhs.arkansas.gov)

###

Twitter



Governor's Office | State Capitol | 500 Woodlane Street, Suite 250 | Little Rock, Arkansas 72201

Share this email:



[Manage](#) your preferences | [Opt out](#) using TrueRemove™

Got this as a forward? [Sign up](#) to receive our future emails.

View this email [online](#).

Governor's Office State Capitol | 500 Woodlane Street, Suite 250
Little Rock, AR | 72201 US

This email was sent to katie.beck@governor.arkansas.gov.

To continue receiving our emails, add us to your address book.

From: [Katie Beck](#)
To: [Lynch, Calder \(CMS/OA\)](#); [Brookes, Brady \(CMS/OA\)](#)
Subject: Re: Re: draft draft AW press release for tomorrow
Date: Wednesday, September 12, 2018 12:15:57 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image005.png](#)
[image006.png](#)
[image007.png](#)
[image008.png](#)
[image009.png](#)

Just tried your desk line. Let me know when you get a second (b)(6)

From: Calder Lynch <Calder.Lynch@cms.hhs.gov>
Date: Wednesday, September 12, 2018 at 10:38 AM
To: Katie Beck <katie.beck@governor.arkansas.gov>, "Brookes, Brady (CMS/OA)" <Brady.Brookes@cms.hhs.gov>
Subject: RE: draft draft AW press release for tomorrow

Thanks – are you guys going to be sharing any data on the number of people who have found a job since the program began? Brady mentioned something along those lines from her conversation with you, but I don't see that in here.

Also – I know that you all had some issues with the website and understand were offering opportunity for people who encountered trouble reporting their hours to request an extension. Any info on # of extensions requested/granted?

--

Calder Lynch

Senior Counselor
Office of the Administrator
Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS)
Washington, DC 20201
Office: (202) 619-0630

From: Katie Beck <Katie.Beck@governor.arkansas.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2018 10:24 AM
To: Brookes, Brady (CMS/OA) <Brady.Brookes@cms.hhs.gov>; Lynch, Calder (CMS/OA) <Calder.Lynch@cms.hhs.gov>
Subject: FW: draft draft AW press release for tomorrow

Brady/Calder -

Please see attached draft release and report for today's press conference. Happy to chat at any point today.

Katie Beck
Director of State-Federal Relations

Office of Governor Asa Hutchinson
444 North Capitol St, NW Suite 365
Washington, DC 20001
(O): 202-220-1329
(C): (b)(6)

From: JR Davis <JR.Davis@governor.arkansas.gov>
Date: Wednesday, September 12, 2018 at 9:05 AM
To: Katie Beck <katie.beck@governor.arkansas.gov>
Subject: FW: draft draft AW press release for tomorrow

Very much a draft, but here you go!

From: Amy Webb <Amy.Webb@dhs.arkansas.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, September 11, 2018 8:34 PM
To: JR Davis <JR.Davis@governor.arkansas.gov>; Catherine Kelley <catherine.kelley@governor.arkansas.gov>
Subject: draft draft AW press release for tomorrow

J.R. and Catherine,

Attached is our draft release and the monthly Medicaid enrollment and expenditure report. Still working on the fact sheet and won't have the ARWorks report until sometime late morning. Note: The lawyers haven't approved the press release but wanted to go ahead and get to you. If they have changes I will let you know. Also, I want to triple check the numbers before we release (been a long day and I don't trust my math!). and we put in a placeholder quote for Governor just to handle flow.
Amy

--

Amy Webb | Arkansas Department of Human Services
Office of Communications and Community Engagement | Chief of Communications and
Community Engagement
501.682-8946 – desk | 501.837-8199 – mobile | amy.webb@dhs.arkansas.gov



NOTE – This email may contain sensitive or confidential information.

The Arkansas Department of Human Services has determined that this message may contain confidential or otherwise protected information. We have used transport encryption to help protect this message while in transit to you. Please take all reasonable measures to protect any protected or confidential data that might be in this message, including the limitation of re-disclosure to the minimum number of recipients necessary. Please report any inappropriate disclosure to <https://dhs.arkansas.gov/ost/contactforms/ContactUs.aspx>

or as required by law.

OVERSIGHT













From: [Stephanie Groen](#)
To: [Perez-Rivera, Diana \(CMS/OA\)](#)
Cc: [Brookes, Brady \(CMS/OA\)](#); [Johnston, Darcie \(HHS/IEA\)](#)
Subject: Re: Re: Administrator Verma requesting a call with Governor Reynolds
Date: Wednesday, August 1, 2018 10:01:50 AM

That sounds great. Thanks for being flexible.

On Wed, Aug 1, 2018 at 9:52 AM Perez-Rivera, Diana (CMS/OA) <Diana.Perez-Rivera@cms.hhs.gov> wrote:

No worries. Let's go with 10:45am ET. I will provide the Administrator with the number below.

Thank you,

Diana

From: Stephanie Groen [mailto:stephanie.groen@iowa.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, August 1, 2018 9:43 AM
To: Perez-Rivera, Diana (CMS/OA) <Diana.Perez-Rivera@cms.hhs.gov>
Cc: Brookes, Brady (CMS/OA) <Brady.Brookes@cms.hhs.gov>; Johnston, Darcie (HHS/IEA) <Darcie.Johnston@hhs.gov>

Subject: Re: Administrator Verma requesting a call with Governor Reynolds

Diana,

I am SO sorry about that. She's on the road and I think it might have been a service issue. She's hosting a road table now but would have time again from 10:25-11:00.

Any change something in that window would work for them to connect? She could use this number: (b)(6)

My apologies!

Stephanie

On Wed, Aug 1, 2018 at 9:28 AM Perez-Rivera, Diana (CMS/OA) <Diana.Perez-Rivera@cms.hhs.gov> wrote:

Stephanie,

The Administrator has called the Governor a few times but unable to get through. Is there another number we should try?

Thanks,

Diana

From: Stephanie Groen [mailto:stephanie.groen@iowa.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, July 31, 2018 4:57 PM
To: Johnston, Darcie (HHS/IEA) <Darcie.Johnston@hhs.gov>
Cc: Brookes, Brady (CMS/OA) <Brady.Brookes@cms.hhs.gov>; Perez-Rivera, Diana (CMS/OA) <Diana.Perez-Rivera@cms.hhs.gov>

Subject: Re: Administrator Verma requesting a call with Governor Reynolds

Great. Thank you!

On Tue, Jul 31, 2018 at 4:55 PM Johnston, Darcie (HHS/IEA) <Darcie.Johnston@hhs.gov> wrote:

Hi Stephanie-

Yes, the Administrator will call Governor Reynolds on her cell at 9:15 ET. Thanks, Darcie

From: Stephanie Groen [mailto:stephanie.groen@iowa.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, July 31, 2018 4:43 PM

To: Johnston, Darcie (HHS/IEA)
Subject: Re: Administrator Verma requesting a call with Governor Reynolds

Are you able to confirm on your end, Darcie?

On Tue, Jul 31, 2018 at 3:52 PM Groen, Stephanie <stephanie.groen@iowa.gov> wrote:

Darcie-

The Governor can do the call at 9:15 am ET tomorrow. Does that still work for the Administrator? The Administrator can call the Governor on her cell phone at (b)(6)

(b)(6)

Will you let me know when the call is confirmed?

Thanks!

Stephanie

On Tue, Jul 31, 2018 at 3:11 PM, Groen, Stephanie <stephanie.groen@iowa.gov> wrote:

So it would be with the Deputy Secretary, not Administrator Verma?

On Tue, Jul 31, 2018 at 3:08 PM, Johnston, Darcie (HHS/IEA) <Darcie.Johnston@hhs.gov> wrote:

The Dep. Sec wants to update the Governor on STLDI final rule. Thanks, Darcie

From: Groen, Stephanie [mailto:stephanie.groen@iowa.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, July 31, 2018 3:02 PM
To: Johnston, Darcie (HHS/IEA)
Cc: Brookes, Brady (CMS/OA)

Subject: Re: Administrator Verma requesting a call with Governor Reynolds

Can you provide a little more context?

On Tue, Jul 31, 2018 at 2:12 PM, Johnston, Darcie (HHS/IEA)
<Darcie.Johnston@hhs.gov> wrote:

Hi Stephanie-

What we have to discuss with her is time sensitive. Would anytime tomorrow morning work for her?

From: Groen, Stephanie [mailto:stephanie.groen@iowa.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, July 31, 2018 2:10 PM
To: Johnston, Darcie (HHS/IEA)

Subject: Re: Administrator Verma requesting a call with Governor Reynolds

Darcie,

Unfortunately that time does not work for the Governor tomorrow as she is on the road and will be hosting a roundtable at that time.

Would any of these time windows for next week work out?

Monday, August 6 between 5:30-6:00 pm EST

Tuesday, August 7 between 11:00-11:45 am EST

Wednesday, August 8 between 4:30-6:30 pm EST

Thanks,

Stephanie

On Tue, Jul 31, 2018 at 12:19 PM, Johnston, Darcie (HHS/IEA)
<Darcie.Johnston@hhs.gov> wrote:

Thank you!

From: Stephanie Groen [mailto:stephanie.groen@iowa.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, July 31, 2018 12:09 PM
To: Johnston, Darcie (HHS/IEA)
Cc: Marks, Caryn (HHS/IEA)
Subject: Re: Administrator Verma requesting a call with Governor Reynolds

Darcie-

I will check and be in touch.

Stephanie

On Tue, Jul 31, 2018 at 12:07 PM Johnston, Darcie (HHS/IEA) <Darcie.Johnston@hhs.gov> wrote:

Hi Stephanie-

Administrator Verma is requesting a call with Governor Reynolds tomorrow between 9:00 am and 10 am ET to discuss proposed STLDI rule. Would you work on confirming this call please or connect me to the scheduler? If this time block doesn't work please let me know a time that would work for the Governor? I expect the call will not take longer than 15 minutes. Thanks, Darcie

Darcie L. Johnston

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

Office of the Secretary

Director, Intergovernmental Affairs

202-690-1058 (office)

(b)(6) (cell)

Darcie.Johnston@HHS.gov

--

Stephanie Groen | Director of State-Federal Relations

Office of the Governor, State of Iowa

Gov. Kim Reynolds and Lt. Gov. Adam Gregg

202.624.5479 | stephanie.groen@iowa.gov

www.governor.iowa.gov

www.ltgovernor.iowa.gov

--

Stephanie Groen | Director of State-Federal Relations

Office of the Governor, State of Iowa

Gov. Kim Reynolds and Lt. Gov. Adam Gregg

202.624.5479 | stephanie.groen@iowa.gov

www.governor.iowa.gov

www.ltgovernor.iowa.gov

--

Stephanie Groen | Director of State-Federal Relations

Office of the Governor, State of Iowa

Gov. Kim Reynolds and Lt. Gov. Adam Gregg

202.624.5479 | stephanie.groen@iowa.gov

www.governor.iowa.gov

www.ltgovernor.iowa.gov

--

Stephanie Groen | Director of State-Federal Relations

Office of the Governor, State of Iowa

Gov. Kim Reynolds and Lt. Gov. Adam Gregg

202.624.5479 | stephanie.groen@iowa.gov

www.governor.iowa.gov

www.ltgovernor.iowa.gov

--

Stephanie Groen | Director of State-Federal Relations

Office of the Governor, State of Iowa

Gov. Kim Reynolds and Lt. Gov. Adam Gregg

202.624.5479 | stephanie.groen@iowa.gov

www.governor.iowa.gov

www.ltgovernor.iowa.gov

--

Stephanie Groen | Director of State-Federal Relations

Office of the Governor, State of Iowa

Gov. Kim Reynolds and Lt. Gov. Adam Gregg

202.624.5479 | stephanie.groen@iowa.gov

www.governor.iowa.gov

www.ltgovernor.iowa.gov

--

Stephanie Groen | Director of State-Federal Relations

Office of the Governor, State of Iowa

Gov. Kim Reynolds and Lt. Gov. Adam Gregg

202.624.5479 | stephanie.groen@iowa.gov

www.governor.iowa.gov

www.ltgovernor.iowa.gov

--

Stephanie Groen | Director of State-Federal Relations

Office of the Governor, State of Iowa

Gov. Kim Reynolds and Lt. Gov. Adam Gregg

202.624.5479 | stephanie.groen@iowa.gov

www.governor.iowa.gov

www.ltgovernor.iowa.gov

--

Stephanie Groen | Director of State-Federal Relations

Office of the Governor, State of Iowa

Gov. Kim Reynolds and Lt. Gov. Adam Gregg

202.624.5479 | stephanie.groen@iowa.gov

www.governor.iowa.gov

www.ltgovernor.iowa.gov

From: [Katie Beck](#)
To: [Brookes, Brady \(CMS/OA\)](#)
Cc: [Lynch, Calder \(CMS/OA\)](#)
Subject: Call with Governor Hutchinson
Date: Thursday, February 22, 2018 11:08:41 PM

Brady -

Wanted to connect before tomorrow's call with the Governor. The purpose is to touch base on our pending 1115 waiver prior to their meeting on Sunday afternoon. If you all need anything on our end between now and then please don't hesitate to let me know.

Katie

From: [Jordan Bearden](#)
To: [Perez-Rivera, Diana \(CMS/OA\)](#); [Brookes, Brady \(CMS/OA\)](#)
Cc: [Katie Beck](#); [Jennifer Bruce](#)
Subject: Confirmation Request: Call w/ Governor Hutchinson
Date: Thursday, February 22, 2018 10:05:55 AM

Good morning,

I am reaching out to reconfirm the call with Governor Hutchinson and Administrator Verma scheduled for tomorrow, 2/23 at 1:00pm CST (2:00pm EST). Please let me know if the following call-in information is accurate, as well as the names/titles of any additional participants.

WebEx: (b)(6)
Meeting

If you need anything on our end, please don't hesitate to reach out.

Many thanks,

Jordan Bearden
Deputy Director of Scheduling
Office of Governor Asa Hutchinson
Office: 501-682-3307

From: Jennifer Bruce
Sent: Wednesday, February 21, 2018 9:21 AM
To: Brookes, Brady (CMS/OA) <Brady.Brookes@cms.hhs.gov>
Cc: Jordan Bearden <Jordan.Bearden@governor.arkansas.gov>; Katie Beck <Katie.Beck@governor.arkansas.gov>; Perez-Rivera, Diana (CMS/OA) <Diana.Perez-Rivera@cms.hhs.gov>
Subject: RE: Governor Hutchinson Phone Call Request

Wonderful, thank you!

Best,

Jennifer Bruce
Office of Governor Asa Hutchinson
Director of Scheduling
501.683.6416
Jennifer.Bruce@governor.arkansas.gov
<http://governor.arkansas.gov/scheduling-request-form/>

From: Brookes, Brady (CMS/OA) [<mailto:Brady.Brookes@cms.hhs.gov>]

Sent: Wednesday, February 21, 2018 8:57 AM

To: Jennifer Bruce <jennifer.bruce@governor.arkansas.gov>

Cc: Jordan Bearden <Jordan.Bearden@governor.arkansas.gov>; Katie Beck <Katie.Beck@governor.arkansas.gov>; Perez-Rivera, Diana (CMS/OA) <Diana.Perez-Rivera@cms.hhs.gov>

Subject: RE: Governor Hutchinson Phone Call Request

No problem. I am adding Diana who can help find a time.

Confidential and deliberative, pre-decisional communication

From: Jennifer Bruce [<mailto:jennifer.bruce@governor.arkansas.gov>]

Sent: Wednesday, February 21, 2018 9:53 AM

To: Brookes, Brady (CMS/OA) <Brady.Brookes@cms.hhs.gov>

Cc: Jordan Bearden <Jordan.Bearden@governor.arkansas.gov>; Katie Beck <Katie.Beck@governor.arkansas.gov>

Subject: RE: Governor Hutchinson Phone Call Request

Good morning, Brady,

Please accept my sincerest apology for the back and forth here – it was decided this morning that the Governor would like to proceed in scheduling a phone call with the Administrator this week.

I'll be happy to call to discuss further – please let me know. Thank you!

Best,

Jennifer Bruce

Office of Governor Asa Hutchinson

Director of Scheduling

501.683.6416

Jennifer.Bruce@governor.arkansas.gov

<http://governor.arkansas.gov/scheduling-request-form/>

From: Jennifer Bruce

Sent: Tuesday, February 20, 2018 2:45 PM

To: 'Brookes, Brady (CMS/OA)' <Brady.Brookes@cms.hhs.gov>

Cc: Jordan Bearden <Jordan.Bearden@governor.arkansas.gov>

Subject: RE: Governor Hutchinson Phone Call Request

Hi Brady,

My understanding is that Dennis Smith has been in touch and our issue has been resolved for now – please let me know if you have any questions. We appreciate your attention and responsiveness to this!

Best,

Jennifer Bruce
Office of Governor Asa Hutchinson
Director of Scheduling
501.683.6416
Jennifer.Bruce@governor.arkansas.gov
<http://governor.arkansas.gov/scheduling-request-form/>

From: Brookes, Brady (CMS/OA) [<mailto:Brady.Brookes@cms.hhs.gov>]
Sent: Tuesday, February 20, 2018 2:35 PM
To: Jennifer Bruce <jennifer.bruce@governor.arkansas.gov>
Cc: Jordan Bearden <Jordan.Bearden@governor.arkansas.gov>
Subject: RE: Governor Hutchinson Phone Call Request

Can you give me a call? It may be easier to talk through this.

(b)(6)

Confidential and deliberative, pre-decisional communication

From: Jennifer Bruce [<mailto:jennifer.bruce@governor.arkansas.gov>]
Sent: Tuesday, February 20, 2018 10:23 AM
To: Brookes, Brady (CMS/OA) <Brady.Brookes@cms.hhs.gov>
Cc: Jordan Bearden <Jordan.Bearden@governor.arkansas.gov>
Subject: RE: Governor Hutchinson Phone Call Request

Great, thank you!

Best,

Jennifer Bruce
Office of Governor Asa Hutchinson
Director of Scheduling
501.683.6416
Jennifer.Bruce@governor.arkansas.gov
<http://governor.arkansas.gov/scheduling-request-form/>

From: Brookes, Brady (CMS/OA) [<mailto:Brady.Brookes@cms.hhs.gov>]
Sent: Tuesday, February 20, 2018 9:22 AM
To: Jennifer Bruce <jennifer.bruce@governor.arkansas.gov>
Cc: Jordan Bearden <Jordan.Bearden@governor.arkansas.gov>
Subject: RE: Governor Hutchinson Phone Call Request

Hi Jennifer,

Absolutely. I will connect with her scheduler and we will get back with you.

Thanks,
Brady

Confidential and deliberative, pre-decisional communication

From: Jennifer Bruce [<mailto:jennifer.bruce@governor.arkansas.gov>]

Sent: Tuesday, February 20, 2018 9:58 AM

To: Brookes, Brady (CMS/OA) <Brady.Brookes@cms.hhs.gov>

Cc: Jordan Bearden <Jordan.Bearden@governor.arkansas.gov>

Subject: Governor Hutchinson Phone Call Request

Good morning, Brady – I hope you are well!

Governor Hutchinson is hoping to schedule a phone call with Administrator Verma sometime this week, at her earliest convenience. Please let me know if this is a possibility, and we will do our best to accommodate the Administrator's schedule.

Thank you!

Best,

Jennifer Bruce
Office of Governor Asa Hutchinson
Director of Scheduling
501.683.6416
Jennifer.Bruce@governor.arkansas.gov
<http://governor.arkansas.gov/scheduling-request-form/>

From: [Pottebaum, Nic](#)
To: [Lloyd, Matt \(OS/ASPA\)](#); [Bult, Nathan \(OS/ASPA\)](#); [Brookes, Brady \(CMS/OA\)](#); [Hoelscher, Douglas L. EOP/WHO](#)
Cc: [Stephanie Groen](#); [Smith, Brenna](#)
Subject: Fwd: Fwd: ADVISORY: Gov. Reynolds, IID commissioner to hold press conference on Iowa's stopgap measure
Date: Monday, October 23, 2017 11:25:42 AM

All,

FYI - Our media advisory for Iowa media is going out at 10:30 AM CT (11:30 AM ET). This is just a media advisory. Not our press release that will go out at 2:00 PM CT (3:00 PM ET).

Our press conferences are live streamed on YouTube here: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCmISFMoFOM6fo6PeXdHxGDg/featured>. Press conference will be at 2:00 PM CT (3:00 PM ET).

Thanks,
Nic

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Smith, Brenna** <brenna.smith@iowa.gov>
Date: Mon, Oct 23, 2017 at 10:15 AM
Subject: ADVISORY: Gov. Reynolds, IID commissioner to hold press conference on Iowa's stopgap measure
To: send-IACIO.IACIO_541@request.govdelivery.com
Cc: Brenna Smith <brenna.smith@iowa.gov>

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

Governor Kim Reynolds ★ Lt. Governor Adam Gregg

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Monday, October 23, 2017

CONTACT: Brenna Smith, (515) 281-5211

MEDIA ADVISORY

Gov. Reynolds, IID commissioner to hold press conference on Iowa's stopgap measure

(DES MOINES) – Gov. Kim Reynolds and Iowa Insurance Division (IID) Commissioner Doug Ommen will hold a press conference Monday afternoon to update media on Iowa's Stopgap Measure. The press conference is open to credentialed members of the media.

Monday, October 23, 2017

Gov. Reynolds & IID Commissioner Ommen hold press conference

Governor's Office – Robert D. Ray Conference Room

Iowa State Capitol

Des Moines, IA

2 p.m.

--

Nicholas Pottebaum | Policy Advisor
Office of the Governor, State of Iowa
Gov. Kim Reynolds & Lt. Gov. Adam Gregg
515.725.3505 | Nic.Pottebaum@iowa.gov
www.governor.iowa.gov
www.ltgovernor.iowa.gov

From: [Jennifer Bruce](#)
To: [Johnston, Darcie \(HHS/IEA\)](#)
Cc: [Tignor, Beth \(HHS/IOS\)](#); [Brookes, Brady \(CMS/OA\)](#); [Norton, Jane \(OS/IEA\)](#); [Jordan Bearden](#)
Subject: Governor Hutchinson Meeting Request 12/14
Date: Friday, December 8, 2017 5:58:29 PM

Hi Darcie - I hope you are well!

Governor Hutchinson will be taking a day trip to Washington DC this coming Thursday, 12/14 and would like to schedule a meeting with Secretary Hargan. Does he have any availability to meet any time between 11am-1pm?

Best,

Jennifer Bruce
Office of Governor Asa Hutchinson
Director of Scheduling
501.683.6416
Jennifer.Bruce@governor.arkansas.gov
<http://governor.arkansas.gov/scheduling-request-form/>

From: [Jennifer Bruce](#)
To: [Brookes, Brady \(CMS/OA\)](#)
Cc: [Jordan Bearden](#)
Subject: Governor Hutchinson Phone Call Request
Date: Tuesday, February 20, 2018 9:58:56 AM

Good morning, Brady – I hope you are well!

Governor Hutchinson is hoping to schedule a phone call with Administrator Verma sometime this week, at her earliest convenience. Please let me know if this is a possibility, and we will do our best to accommodate the Administrator's schedule.

Thank you!

Best,

Jennifer Bruce
Office of Governor Asa Hutchinson
Director of Scheduling
501.683.6416
Jennifer.Bruce@governor.arkansas.gov
<http://governor.arkansas.gov/scheduling-request-form/>

From: [Pottebaum, Nic](#)
To: [Brookes, Brady \(CMS/OA\)](#)
Cc: [Burghoff, Claire \(CMS/OA\)](#); [Austin Jacobs](#)
Subject: Re: Re: Call with Seema
Date: Monday, October 23, 2017 9:00:13 AM

Brady,

Confirmed. We will do today's call with Governor Reynolds and Administrator Verma at 10:30 AM (9:30 AM CT).

Can you call Governor Reynolds' assistant, Austin Jacobs, direct line? His phone number is (b)(6). He will transfer Administrator Verma to the Governor. As a back up, you can use my cell (b)(6).

Thanks,
Nic

On Mon, Oct 23, 2017 at 7:29 AM, Nic Pottebaum <nic.pottebaum@iowa.gov> wrote:
10:30 AM ET should work, but I'll confirm in about a half hour.

Nic

On Mon, Oct 23, 2017 at 7:04 AM Brookes, Brady (CMS/OA) <Brady.Brookes@cms.hhs.gov> wrote:

Hi Nic,

Seema let me know about the call this morning. Is the Governor able to do 10:30 et/9:30 ct instead of 10:45/9:45? Seema has an event that starts at 10:45.

Thanks,
Brady

Sent from my iPhone

--

Nicholas Pottebaum | Policy Advisor
Office of the Governor, State of Iowa
Gov. Kim Reynolds & Lt. Gov. Adam Gregg
515.725.3505 | Nic.Pottebaum@iowa.gov
www.governor.iowa.gov
www.ltgovernor.iowa.gov

--

Nicholas Pottebaum | Policy Advisor
Office of the Governor, State of Iowa

Gov. Kim Reynolds & Lt. Gov. Adam Gregg
515.725.3505 | Nic.Pottebaum@iowa.gov
www.governor.iowa.gov
www.ltgovernor.iowa.gov

From: [Jennifer Bruce](#)
To: [Perez-Rivera, Diana \(CMS/OA\)](#); [Katie Beck](#); [Brookes, Brady \(CMS/OA\)](#)
Cc: [Burghoff, Claire \(CMS/OA\)](#)
Subject: RE: RE: Call with the Administrator and the Governor
Date: Monday, November 13, 2017 11:13:24 AM

Wonderful- thank you!

Best,

Jennifer Bruce
Office of Governor Asa Hutchinson
Director of Scheduling
501.683.6416
Jennifer.Bruce@governor.arkansas.gov
<http://governor.arkansas.gov/scheduling-request-form/>

From: Perez-Rivera, Diana (CMS/OA) [mailto:Diana.Perez-Rivera@cms.hhs.gov]
Sent: Monday, November 13, 2017 9:56 AM
To: Jennifer Bruce <jennifer.bruce@governor.arkansas.gov>; Katie Beck <Katie.Beck@governor.arkansas.gov>; Brookes, Brady (CMS/OA) <Brady.Brookes@cms.hhs.gov>
Cc: Burghoff, Claire (CMS/OA) <Claire.Burghoff@cms.hhs.gov>
Subject: RE: Call with the Administrator and the Governor

Hi Jennifer,

This time does work for everyone. Here is a dial-in number.

Access Information

1. Please call the following number:
WebEx: (b)(6)
2. Follow the instructions you hear on the phone.

Your WebEx Meeting Number (b)(6)

Thank you,
Diana

From: Jennifer Bruce [<mailto:jennifer.bruce@governor.arkansas.gov>]
Sent: Monday, November 13, 2017 10:25 AM
To: Katie Beck <Katie.Beck@governor.arkansas.gov>; Brookes, Brady (CMS/OA) <Brady.Brookes@cms.hhs.gov>
Cc: Perez-Rivera, Diana (CMS/OA) <Diana.Perez-Rivera@cms.hhs.gov>; Burghoff, Claire (CMS/OA) <Claire.Burghoff@cms.hhs.gov>
Subject: RE: Call with the Administrator and the Governor

Hi Brady – I hope you are well!

Governor Hutchinson has availability for a phone call this afternoon at 1:45pm CST – will this work for the other parties?

Best,

Jennifer Bruce
Office of Governor Asa Hutchinson
Director of Scheduling
501.683.6416
Jennifer.Bruce@governor.arkansas.gov
<http://governor.arkansas.gov/scheduling-request-form/>

From: Katie Beck
Sent: Sunday, November 12, 2017 10:18 PM
To: Brookes, Brady (CMS/OA) <Brady.Brookes@cms.hhs.gov>
Cc: Perez-Rivera, Diana (CMS/OA) <Diana.Perez-Rivera@cms.hhs.gov>; Burghoff, Claire (CMS/OA) <Claire.Burghoff@cms.hhs.gov>; Jennifer Bruce <jennifer.bruce@governor.arkansas.gov>
Subject: Re: Call with the Administrator and the Governor

Brady,

Thank you for reaching out. I know this is of great importance to the Governor. I've copied Jennifer Bruce, the Governor's Director of Scheduling, to help find a mutually convenient time for them to connect.

Please let me know what additional information you all need on our end in preparation for the call. Happy to provide anything you all might need.

Best,

Katie Beck
Director of State-Federal Relations
Office of Governor Asa Hutchinson
444 North Capitol St, NW Suite 365
Washington, DC 20001
(O): 202-220-1329
(C): (b)(6)

From: "Brookes, Brady (CMS/OA)" <Brady.Brookes@cms.hhs.gov>
Date: Sunday, November 12, 2017 at 9:31 PM
To: Katie Beck <katie.beck@governor.arkansas.gov>
Cc: "Perez-Rivera, Diana (CMS/OA)" <Diana.Perez-Rivera@cms.hhs.gov>, "Burghoff, Claire (CMS/OA)" <Claire.Burghoff@cms.hhs.gov>

Subject: Call with the Administrator and the Governor

Hi Katie,

The Administrator asked me to reach out to see if the Governor had time for a call with her and Andrew Bremberg on Monday or Tuesday of this week? I have cc'd Diana, who handles the Administrator's schedule.

Thanks,
Brady

Brady Brookes
Deputy Chief of Staff
Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services
Cell: (b)(6)
Desk: 202-690-8316

From: [Jennifer Bruce](#)
To: [Katie Beck](#); [Ritchie, Vu \(CMS/OA\)](#)
Cc: [Matt](#); [Taylor Mason](#); [Dinicolo, Kelly A. \(CMS/OC\)](#); [Brookes, Brady \(CMS/OA\)](#); [Alison Williams](#); [Catherine Kelley](#); [Jordan Bearden](#); [JR Davis](#); [Chelsea O'Kelley](#)
Subject: RE: CMS Administrator Seema Verma - Visit to Arkansas on March 5
Date: Tuesday, February 20, 2018 4:52:16 PM

Thank you, Katie!

We have the timeframe held on the Governor's calendar. Please let us know how we can be helpful.

Best,

Jennifer Bruce
Office of Governor Asa Hutchinson
Director of Scheduling
501.683.6416
Jennifer.Bruce@governor.arkansas.gov
<http://governor.arkansas.gov/scheduling-request-form/>

From: Katie Beck
Sent: Tuesday, February 20, 2018 3:46 PM
To: Ritchie, Vu (CMS/OA) <Vu.Ritchie@cms.hhs.gov>
Cc: Matt <matt@nahigianstrategies.com>; Taylor Mason <taylor@nahigianstrategies.com>; Dinicolo, Kelly A. (CMS/OC) <Kelly.Dinicolo@cms.hhs.gov>; Brookes, Brady (CMS/OA) <Brady.Brookes@cms.hhs.gov>; Alison Williams <Alison.Williams@governor.arkansas.gov>; Catherine Kelley <catherine.kelley@governor.arkansas.gov>; Jennifer Bruce <jennifer.bruce@governor.arkansas.gov>; Jordan Bearden <Jordan.Bearden@governor.arkansas.gov>; JR Davis <JR.Davis@governor.arkansas.gov>; Chelsea O'Kelley <Chelsea.OKelley@governor.arkansas.gov>
Subject: Re: CMS Administrator Seema Verma - Visit to Arkansas on March 5

Thanks, Vu.

I've copied Jennifer Bruce and Jordan Bearden to help with scheduling logistics on our end. JR Davis and Chelsea O'Kelley, also copied here, will be able to coordinate with media in the state.

We look forward to planning the Administrator's visit with you and the CMS team.

Best,

Katie Beck
Director of State-Federal Relations
Office of Governor Asa Hutchinson
444 North Capitol St, NW Suite 365
Washington, DC 20001

(O): 202-220-1329

(C): (b)(6)

From: "Ritchie, Vu (CMS/OA)" <Vu.Ritchie@cms.hhs.gov>

Date: Tuesday, February 20, 2018 at 3:18 PM

To: Katie Beck <katie.beck@governor.arkansas.gov>

Cc: Matt <matt@nahigianstrategies.com>, Taylor Mason <taylor@nahigianstrategies.com>, "Dinicolo, Kelly A. (CMS/OC)" <Kelly.Dinicolo@cms.hhs.gov>, "Brookes, Brady (CMS/OA)" <Brady.Brookes@cms.hhs.gov>

Subject: CMS Administrator Seema Verma - Visit to Arkansas on March 5

Hi Katie,

I hope this finds you well. Administrator Verma will be in Arkansas for a stop on her listening tour on Monday, March 5. I wanted to give you notice due to your position in Governor Hutchinson's office. Feel free to pass this along to others within the governor's office or within state government relevant to facilitating this visit.

I have copied Matt, Taylor, and Kelly to this email. They are the team at CMS charged with planning the Administrator's listening tour stops. If Gov. Hutchinson's schedule permits, please work with them to plan any events between the governor and the Administrator, whose visit will be from 9:30am until 12:30pm on March 5.

Please note that I am recused from all substantive issues related to the State of Arkansas, however, I can assist you with any logistical questions concerning her visit as I will be on the ground with her. All substantive issues should be directed to Brady Brookes, the Deputy Chief of Staff for CMS Administrator. She can direct you to the appropriate person to address your questions.

If you have any questions or concerns, feel free to contact us.

Thanks!

Vu

--

Andrew "Vu" Ritchie

Senior Advisor | Office of the Administrator

Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services

Direct: (202)690-6754

vu.ritchie@cms.hhs.gov

Confidential and deliberative, pre-decisional communication.

From: [Katie Beck](#)
To: [Ritchie, Vu \(CMS/OA\)](#)
Cc: [Matt](#); [Taylor Mason](#); [Dinicolo, Kelly A. \(CMS/OC\)](#); [Brookes, Brady \(CMS/OA\)](#); [Alison Williams](#); [Catherine Kelley](#); [Jennifer Bruce](#); [Jordan Bearden](#); [JR Davis](#); [Chelsea O'Kelley](#)
Subject: Re: CMS Administrator Seema Verma - Visit to Arkansas on March 5
Date: Tuesday, February 20, 2018 4:47:38 PM

Thanks, Vu.

I've copied Jennifer Bruce and Jordan Bearden to help with scheduling logistics on our end. JR Davis and Chelsea O'Kelley, also copied here, will be able to coordinate with media in the state.

We look forward to planning the Administrator's visit with you and the CMS team.

Best,

Katie Beck
Director of State-Federal Relations
Office of Governor Asa Hutchinson
444 North Capitol St, NW Suite 365
Washington, DC 20001
(O): 202-220-1329
(C) (b)(6)

From: "Ritchie, Vu (CMS/OA)" <Vu.Ritchie@cms.hhs.gov>
Date: Tuesday, February 20, 2018 at 3:18 PM
To: Katie Beck <katie.beck@governor.arkansas.gov>
Cc: Matt <matt@nahigianstrategies.com>, Taylor Mason <taylor@nahigianstrategies.com>, "Dinicolo, Kelly A. (CMS/OC)" <Kelly.Dinicolo@cms.hhs.gov>, "Brookes, Brady (CMS/OA)" <Brady.Brookes@cms.hhs.gov>
Subject: CMS Administrator Seema Verma - Visit to Arkansas on March 5

Hi Katie,

I hope this finds you well. Administrator Verma will be in Arkansas for a stop on her listening tour on Monday, March 5. I wanted to give you notice due to your position in Governor Hutchinson's office. Feel free to pass this along to others within the governor's office or within state government relevant to facilitating this visit.

I have copied Matt, Taylor, and Kelly to this email. They are the team at CMS charged with planning the Administrator's listening tour stops. If Gov. Hutchinson's schedule permits, please work with them to plan any events between the governor and the Administrator, whose visit will be from 9:30am until 12:30pm on March 5.

Please note that I am recused from all substantive issues related to the State of Arkansas, however, I can assist you with any logistical questions concerning her visit as I will be on the ground with her. All

substantive issues should be directed to Brady Brookes, the Deputy Chief of Staff for CMS Administrator. She can direct you to the appropriate person to address your questions.

If you have any questions or concerns, feel free to contact us.

Thanks!

Vu

--

Andrew “Vu” Ritchie

Senior Advisor | Office of the Administrator

Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services

Direct: (202)690-6754

vu.ritchie@cms.hhs.gov

Confidential and deliberative, pre-decisional communication.

From: [Jennifer Bruce](#)
To: [Taylor Mason](#)
Cc: [Katie Beck](#); [Ritchie, Vu \(CMS/OA\)](#); [Dinicolo, Kelly A. \(CMS/OC\)](#); [Brookes, Brady \(CMS/OA\)](#); [Alison Williams](#); [Catherine Kelley](#); [Jordan Bearden](#); [JR Davis](#); [Chelsea O'Kelley](#); [Cassie Williams](#)
Subject: RE: CMS Administrator Seema Verma - Visit to Arkansas on March 5
Date: Wednesday, February 21, 2018 3:33:21 PM

It works for Jordan and myself.

Best,

Jennifer Bruce
Office of Governor Asa Hutchinson
Director of Scheduling
501.683.6416
Jennifer.Bruce@governor.arkansas.gov
<http://governor.arkansas.gov/scheduling-request-form/>

From: Taylor Mason [mailto:taylor@nahigianstrategies.com]
Sent: Wednesday, February 21, 2018 2:29 PM
To: Jennifer Bruce <jennifer.bruce@governor.arkansas.gov>
Cc: Katie Beck <Katie.Beck@governor.arkansas.gov>; Ritchie, Vu (CMS/OA) <Vu.Ritchie@cms.hhs.gov>; Dinicolo, Kelly A. (CMS/OC) <Kelly.Dinicolo@cms.hhs.gov>; Brookes, Brady (CMS/OA) <Brady.Brookes@cms.hhs.gov>; Alison Williams <Alison.Williams@governor.arkansas.gov>; Catherine Kelley <catherine.kelley@governor.arkansas.gov>; Jordan Bearden <Jordan.Bearden@governor.arkansas.gov>; JR Davis <JR.Davis@governor.arkansas.gov>; Chelsea O'Kelley <Chelsea.OKelley@governor.arkansas.gov>; Cassie Williams <cassie@nahigianstrategies.com>
Subject: Re: CMS Administrator Seema Verma - Visit to Arkansas on March 5

Hi Katie,

Does tomorrow at 2 PM ET work for you and your team?

Taylor

From: [Jennifer Bruce](#)
To: [Taylor Mason](#)
Cc: [Katie Beck](#); [Ritchie, Vu \(CMS/OA\)](#); [Matt; Dinicolo, Kelly A. \(CMS/OC\)](#); [Brookes, Brady \(CMS/OA\)](#); [Alison Williams](#); [Catherine Kelley](#); [Jordan Bearden](#); [JR Davis](#); [Chelsea O'Kelley](#)
Subject: Re: Re: CMS Administrator Seema Verma - Visit to Arkansas on March 5
Date: Tuesday, February 20, 2018 6:32:53 PM

Absolutely- we are flexible, just let us know when.

Sent from my iPhone

On Feb 20, 2018, at 4:44 PM, Taylor Mason <taylor@nahigianstrategies.com> wrote:

Hi Kate and team,

We would love to set up a quick call to go over logistics for the day, how does Thursday afternoon work?

Best,

Taylor

On Tue, Feb 20, 2018 at 4:49 PM, Jennifer Bruce
<jennifer.bruce@governor.arkansas.gov> wrote:

Thank you, Katie!

We have the timeframe held on the Governor's calendar. Please let us know how we can be helpful.

Best,

Jennifer Bruce

Office of Governor Asa Hutchinson

Director of Scheduling

[501.683.6416](tel:501.683.6416)

Jennifer.Bruce@governor.arkansas.gov

<http://governor.arkansas.gov/scheduling-request-form/>

From: Katie Beck

Sent: Tuesday, February 20, 2018 3:46 PM

To: Ritchie, Vu (CMS/OA) <Vu.Ritchie@cms.hhs.gov>

Cc: Matt <matt@nahigianstrategies.com>; Taylor Mason
<taylor@nahigianstrategies.com>; Dinicolo, Kelly A. (CMS/OC)
<Kelly.Dinicolo@cms.hhs.gov>; Brookes, Brady (CMS/OA)
<Brady.Brookes@cms.hhs.gov>; Alison Williams
<Alison.Williams@governor.arkansas.gov>; Catherine Kelley
<catherine.kelley@governor.arkansas.gov>; Jennifer Bruce
<jennifer.bruce@governor.arkansas.gov>; Jordan Bearden
<Jordan.Bearden@governor.arkansas.gov>; JR Davis
<JR.Davis@governor.arkansas.gov>; Chelsea O'Kelley
<Chelsea.OKelley@governor.arkansas.gov>

Subject: Re: CMS Administrator Seema Verma - Visit to Arkansas on March 5

Thanks, Vu.

I've copied Jennifer Bruce and Jordan Bearden to help with scheduling logistics on our end. JR Davis and Chelsea O'Kelley, also copied here, will be able to coordinate with media in the state.

We look forward to planning the Administrator's visit with you and the CMS team.

Best,

Katie Beck

Director of State-Federal Relations

Office of Governor Asa Hutchinson

[444 North Capitol St, NW Suite 365](#)

Washington, DC 20001

(O): [202-220-1329](tel:202-220-1329)

(C): (b)(6)

From: "Ritchie, Vu (CMS/OA)" <Vu.Ritchie@cms.hhs.gov>
Date: Tuesday, February 20, 2018 at 3:18 PM
To: Katie Beck <katie.beck@governor.arkansas.gov>
Cc: Matt <matt@nahigianstrategies.com>, Taylor Mason
<taylor@nahigianstrategies.com>, "Dinicolo, Kelly A. (CMS/OC)"
<Kelly.Dinicolo@cms.hhs.gov>, "Brookes, Brady (CMS/OA)"
<Brady.Brookes@cms.hhs.gov>
Subject: CMS Administrator Seema Verma - Visit to Arkansas on March 5

Hi Katie,

I hope this finds you well. Administrator Verma will be in Arkansas for a stop on her listening tour on Monday, March 5. I wanted to give you notice due to your position in Governor Hutchinson's office. Feel free to pass this along to others within the governor's office or within state government relevant to facilitating this visit.

I have copied Matt, Taylor, and Kelly to this email. They are the team at CMS charged with planning the Administrator's listening tour stops. If Gov. Hutchinson's schedule permits, please work with them to plan any events between the governor and the Administrator, whose visit will be from 9:30am until 12:30pm on March 5.

Please note that I am recused from all substantive issues related to the State of Arkansas, however, I can assist you with any logistical questions concerning her visit as I will be on the ground with her. All substantive issues should be directed to Brady Brookes, the Deputy Chief of Staff for CMS Administrator. She can direct you to the appropriate person to address your questions.

If you have any questions or concerns, feel free to contact us.

Thanks!

Vu

--

Andrew "Vu" Ritchie

Senior Advisor | Office of the Administrator

Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services

Direct: [\(202\)690-6754](tel:(202)690-6754)

vu.ritchie@cms.hhs.gov

Confidential and deliberative, pre-decisional communication.

--



Taylor Mason

Communications Associate

Nahigian Strategies, LLC

(b)(6) (m)

www.nahigianstrategies.com

From: [Katie Beck](#)
To: [Taylor Mason](#); [Jennifer Bruce](#)
Cc: [Ritchie, Vu \(CMS/OA\)](#); [Dinicolo, Kelly A. \(CMS/OC\)](#); [Brookes, Brady \(CMS/OA\)](#); [Alison Williams](#); [Catherine Kelley](#); [Jordan Bearden](#); [JR Davis](#); [Chelsea O'Kelley](#); [Cassie Williams](#)
Subject: Re: Re: CMS Administrator Seema Verma - Visit to Arkansas on March 5
Date: Wednesday, February 21, 2018 3:33:51 PM

Works for me. Thanks!

Best,

Katie Beck
Director of State-Federal Relations
Office of Governor Asa Hutchinson
444 North Capitol St, NW Suite 365
Washington, DC 20001
(O): 202-220-1329
(C): (b)(6)

From: Taylor Mason <taylor@nahigianstrategies.com>
Date: Wednesday, February 21, 2018 at 2:29 PM
To: Jennifer Bruce <jennifer.bruce@governor.arkansas.gov>
Cc: Katie Beck <katie.beck@governor.arkansas.gov>, "Ritchie, Vu (CMS/OA)" <Vu.Ritchie@cms.hhs.gov>, "Dinicolo, Kelly A. (CMS/OC)" <Kelly.Dinicolo@cms.hhs.gov>, "Brookes, Brady (CMS/OA)" <Brady.Brookes@cms.hhs.gov>, Alison Williams <Alison.Williams@governor.arkansas.gov>, Catherine Kelley <catherine.kelley@governor.arkansas.gov>, Jordan Bearden <Jordan.Bearden@governor.arkansas.gov>, JR Davis <JR.Davis@governor.arkansas.gov>, Chelsea O'Kelley <Chelsea.OKelley@governor.arkansas.gov>, Cassie Williams <cassie@nahigianstrategies.com>
Subject: Re: CMS Administrator Seema Verma - Visit to Arkansas on March 5

Hi Katie,

Does tomorrow at 2 PM ET work for you and your team?

Taylor

From: [Nic Pottebaum](#)
To: [Brookes, Brady \(CMS/OA\)](#)
Subject: Re: Re: CMS Quote
Date: Wednesday, November 22, 2017 10:11:06 PM

No problem. Let me know if folks are able to connect with those reporters.

On Wed, Nov 22, 2017 at 7:19 PM Brookes, Brady (CMS/OA)

<Brady.Brookes@cms.hhs.gov> wrote:

Very helpful. Thanks!

Sent from my iPhone

On Nov 22, 2017, at 8:09 PM, Nic Pottebaum <nic.pottebaum@iowa.gov> wrote:

Brady,

Here are the Iowa press contacts who have reached out to us and have written stories on this.

Cedar Rapids Gazette: Michaela Ramm (michaela.ramm@thegazette.com).
Also covering from that paper, Matthew Patane (matthew.patane@thegazette.com).

Des Moines Register: Jason Clayworth (jclaywor@registermedia.com). Tony Leys is their health reporter and usually covers these things as well (tleys@registermedia.com).

KGAN: Nick Weig (neweig@sbgvtv.com or [319-241-3254](tel:319-241-3254)).

If we find anymore who reach out I will pass along. Correcting with Cedar Rapids Gazette is the most critical as they first reported it and their distribution goes to about five other papers in the state covering about 75% of the media markets.

I appreciate your assistance on this!

Thanks,
Nic

On Wed, Nov 22, 2017 at 6:34 PM Nic Pottebaum <nic.pottebaum@iowa.gov> wrote:

I'll call you in a few mins.

On Wed, Nov 22, 2017 at 6:33 PM Brookes, Brady (CMS/OA)
<Brady.Brookes@cms.hhs.gov> wrote:

I'm already on it and was actually just about to give you a call. If you are free can you call me? (b)(6)

Confidential and deliberative, pre-decisional communication

From: Nic Pottebaum [mailto:nic.pottebaum@iowa.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, November 22, 2017 7:32 PM
To: Brookes, Brady (CMS/OA) <Brady.Brookes@cms.hhs.gov>
Cc: Stephanie Groen <stephanie.groen@iowa.gov>
Subject: Fwd: CMS Quote

Brady,

See below. Anything you can do to assist is greatly appreciated.

Nic

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Nic Pottebaum <nic.pottebaum@iowa.gov>
Date: Wed, Nov 22, 2017 at 6:29 PM
Subject: Re: CMS Quote
To: Johnston, Darcie (HHS/IEA) <Darcie.Johnston@hhs.gov>, Mason, James (HHS/IEA) <james.mason@hhs.gov>, Norton, Jane (OS/IEA) <Jane.Norton@hhs.gov>, Stephanie Groen <stephanie.groen@iowa.gov>
CC: Hoelscher, Douglas (b)(6), Jake Ketzner <jake.ketzner@iowa.gov>, Stier, Mikki [DHS] <mstier@dhs.state.ia.us> <mstier@dhs.state.ia.us>

All,

We now having two major newspapers in the state and at least one TV station misreporting this. Based on past news cycles 3-4 TV stations will

follow.

My biggest concern is the quote from CMS gives off the opposite impression of what we have discussed with your team. Ultimately that leads to confusion for Medicaid patients and I don't think that's the intention of CMS.

The way I understand the issue is CMS doesn't formally approve or disapprove the action of limiting choice for a Medicaid patient during the temporary period the state is seeking. CMS will allow the state to do so and work on a corrective action plan until the matter is resolved. That plan is being written as we speak by the CMS team now. The state's Medicaid director has been in constant communication with the CMS team on this for days.

However, the press is getting caught up in a nonexistent operational component that the CMS quote only further mislead, only further misleading patients and others.

I would appreciate if we can work on correcting this tonight. I recognize tomorrow is a holiday, but this is leading to a lot of misreporting by the press. My cell is (b)(6)

Iowa has worked in good partnership with HHS in the past on communication to our Iowa press including our most recent 1332 Waiver withdrawal. I hope we can do the same here.

Thanks,

Nic

On Wed, Nov 22, 2017 at 5:29 PM Stephanie Groen
<stephanie.groen@iowa.gov> wrote:

HHS Intergovernmental Team:

Today a public affairs official at CMS did not partner with the state on their quotes in the below article regarding the transition of some of our Iowa Medicaid enrollees between providers. Frankly, this quote is extremely unhelpful and has proved problematic.

<http://www.thegazette.com/subject/news/health/cms-says-it-hasnt-okayed-suspension-of-mco-choice-20171122>

Iowa would appreciate CMS partnering on communication to the press on this instead of providing vague and unproductive statements.

The bottom line is CMS is allowing Iowa to temporarily suspend choice. The statements from Julia Brookhart at CMS are not helpful and demonstrate to the Iowa press that somehow there is an outstanding question. There is not.

I would appreciate a correction along the lines of: CMS is working with the state to address the situation. We are in constant communication so Iowa Medicaid members have a smooth transition. CMS will allow the state to move forward with its plan with federal oversight.

Thank you,

Stephanie

--

Stephanie Groen | Director of State-Federal Relations

Office of the Governor, State of Iowa

Gov. Kim Reynolds and Lt. Gov. Adam Gregg

202.624.5479 | stephanie.groen@iowa.gov

www.governor.iowa.gov

www.ltgovernor.iowa.gov

--

Nicholas Pottebaum | Policy Advisor

Office of the Governor, State of Iowa
Gov. Kim Reynolds & Lt. Gov. Adam Gregg
515.725.3505 | Nic.Pottebaum@iowa.gov
www.governor.iowa.gov
www.ltgovernor.iowa.gov

--

Nicholas Pottebaum | Policy Advisor
Office of the Governor, State of Iowa
Gov. Kim Reynolds & Lt. Gov. Adam Gregg
515.725.3505 | Nic.Pottebaum@iowa.gov
www.governor.iowa.gov
www.ltgovernor.iowa.gov

--

Nicholas Pottebaum | Policy Advisor
Office of the Governor, State of Iowa
Gov. Kim Reynolds & Lt. Gov. Adam Gregg
515.725.3505 | Nic.Pottebaum@iowa.gov
www.governor.iowa.gov
www.ltgovernor.iowa.gov

--

Nicholas Pottebaum | Policy Advisor
Office of the Governor, State of Iowa
Gov. Kim Reynolds & Lt. Gov. Adam Gregg
515.725.3505 | Nic.Pottebaum@iowa.gov
www.governor.iowa.gov
www.ltgovernor.iowa.gov

--

Nicholas Pottebaum | Policy Advisor
Office of the Governor, State of Iowa
Gov. Kim Reynolds & Lt. Gov. Adam Gregg
515.725.3505 | Nic.Pottebaum@iowa.gov
www.governor.iowa.gov
www.ltgovernor.iowa.gov

From: [Matt Highland](#)
To: [Monroe, Johnathan \(CMS/OC\)](#); [Pottebaum, Nic](#)
Cc: [Brookes, Brady \(CMS/OA\)](#); [Smith, Brenna](#); [Stier, Mikki \[DHS\]](#)
Subject: Re: Re: Des Moines Register Follow-Up--Iowa Medicaid
Date: Wednesday, November 29, 2017 7:01:48 PM

Thank you both!

-Matt

On Wed, Nov 29, 2017 at 5:03 PM Monroe, Johnathan (CMS/OC) <Johnathan.Monroe@cms.hhs.gov> wrote:

Thanks Nic. Again, nice working with you on this!

On Nov 29, 2017, at 5:37 PM, Pottebaum, Nic <nic.pottebaum@iowa.gov> wrote:

Johnathan,

CC'ing the Governor's press secretary, Brenna, to this.

Your statement is good on the state's end.

Also, we are getting some press inquiries again about the transition for December 1. We are handling those with the previous statement we have used. If anything changes, we will let you know.

Thanks,
Nic

On Wed, Nov 29, 2017 at 4:26 PM, Monroe, Johnathan (CMS/OC) <Johnathan.Monroe@cms.hhs.gov> wrote:

Nic/Matt,

Good evening. FYI. CMS plans to respond to the Register's follow-up question with the below on-the-record statement. I will respond at around 6:15 p.m. ET tonight.

"We remain committed to ensuring the state comes back into full compliance with the choice provisions in the managed care regulations in a meaningful and measured way. At this time, CMS is working closely with Iowa officials to assess what appropriate steps and procedures will be required."

--Johnathan Monroe, CMS Spokesperson

If you have any questions please let me know. Have a good evening.

Best,

Johnathan

Johnathan Monroe

Director, Media Relations Group (MRG)

Office of Communications

Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS)

Cell: (b)(6)

From: Clayworth, Jason [<mailto:jclaywor@registermedia.com>]

Sent: Wednesday, November 29, 2017 1:43 PM

To: Monroe, Johnathan (CMS/OC) <Johnathan.Monroe@cms.hhs.gov>

Subject: RE: CORRECTION: Iowa Medicaid Provider Choice

Hi Johnathan,

I'm just following up to this follow up.

Considering the revelation from Iowa DHS that it does not need CMS approval to move ahead without MCO choice, can you tell me what – if any – additional oversight/recommendations/steps are being required of the state by your agency?

We have sources who note the importance of CMS oversight. They say the MCO choice rules are intended to help protect against situations when poor and elderly populations are unable to find health services in their communities because doctors in their area do not contract with one of the Medicaid providers.

[And I see on your Website](#) information about CMS corrective action plans.

So I'm wondering if Iowa will be subject to such a plan or any other requirements in light of the recent MCO choice events that have transpired.

Any additional on-the-record info you can provide would be much appreciated. If there are public record/reports associated with such steps, I would greatly appreciate you forward them to me.

Sincerely,

Jason Clayworth

Jason Clayworth

Investigative reporter

<image001.jpg>

515-699-7058

jclayworth@dmreg.com

www.DesMoinesRegister.com

--

Nicholas Pottebaum | Policy Advisor
Office of the Governor, State of Iowa
Gov. Kim Reynolds & Lt. Gov. Adam Gregg
515.725.3505 | Nic.Pottebaum@iowa.gov
www.governor.iowa.gov

| www.ltgovernor.iowa.gov

--

Thank You,
Matt Highland
Communications Specialist,
Iowa Medicaid Enterprise
515-974-3028 office

(b)(6)

cell

mhighla@dhs.state.ia.us

-Sent from my iPhone

From: [Nic Pottebaum](#)
To: [Brookes, Brady \(CMS/OA\)](#)
Subject: Re: Re: Feedback
Date: Thursday, November 23, 2017 10:56:20 AM

Thanks, you too!

On Thu, Nov 23, 2017 at 9:55 AM Brookes, Brady (CMS/OA) <Brady.Brookes@cms.hhs.gov> wrote:

Great. Thank you! Happy Thanksgiving!

Sent from my iPhone

On Nov 23, 2017, at 10:47 AM, Nic Pottebaum <nic.pottebaum@iowa.gov> wrote:

That works for me.

On Thu, Nov 23, 2017 at 9:01 AM Brookes, Brady (CMS/OA) <Brady.Brookes@cms.hhs.gov> wrote:

This is what we are thinking. Any thoughts?

CMS has remained in constant communication with the state as they have prepared for this transition. States generally have the ability to manage their programs in situations such as this within existing statutory and regulatory authorities. CMS has offered our full support to Iowa to help provide as smooth an experience as possible for all impacted beneficiaries.

Sent from my iPhone

--

Nicholas Pottebaum | Policy Advisor
Office of the Governor, State of Iowa
Gov. Kim Reynolds & Lt. Gov. Adam Gregg
515.725.3505 | Nic.Pottebaum@iowa.gov
www.governor.iowa.gov
www.ltgovernor.iowa.gov

--

Nicholas Pottebaum | Policy Advisor
Office of the Governor, State of Iowa
Gov. Kim Reynolds & Lt. Gov. Adam Gregg
515.725.3505 | Nic.Pottebaum@iowa.gov
www.governor.iowa.gov
www.ltgovernor.iowa.gov

From: [Katie Beck](#)
To: [Brookes, Brady \(CMS/OA\)](#)
Subject: Re: Re: Governor Hutchinson Phone Call Request
Date: Wednesday, February 21, 2018 9:41:47 AM

Thank you! Our team should be reaching back out on this. Appreciate all your help!

Katie

On Feb 20, 2018, at 4:21 PM, Brookes, Brady (CMS/OA) <Brady.Brookes@cms.hhs.gov> wrote:

FYI

From: Jennifer Bruce [<mailto:jennifer.bruce@governor.arkansas.gov>]
Sent: Tuesday, February 20, 2018 3:45 PM
To: Brookes, Brady (CMS/OA) <Brady.Brookes@cms.hhs.gov>
Cc: Jordan Bearden <Jordan.Bearden@governor.arkansas.gov>
Subject: RE: Governor Hutchinson Phone Call Request

Hi Brady,

My understanding is that Dennis Smith has been in touch and our issue has been resolved for now – please let me know if you have any questions. We appreciate your attention and responsiveness to this!

Best,

Jennifer Bruce
Office of Governor Asa Hutchinson
Director of Scheduling
501.683.6416
Jennifer.Bruce@governor.arkansas.gov
<http://governor.arkansas.gov/scheduling-request-form/>

From: Brookes, Brady (CMS/OA) [<mailto:Brady.Brookes@cms.hhs.gov>]
Sent: Tuesday, February 20, 2018 2:35 PM
To: Jennifer Bruce <jennifer.bruce@governor.arkansas.gov>
Cc: Jordan Bearden <Jordan.Bearden@governor.arkansas.gov>
Subject: RE: Governor Hutchinson Phone Call Request

Can you give me a call? It may be easier to talk through this.

(b)(6)

Confidential and deliberative, pre-decisional communication

From: Jennifer Bruce [<mailto:jennifer.bruce@governor.arkansas.gov>]

Sent: Tuesday, February 20, 2018 10:23 AM
To: Brookes, Brady (CMS/OA) <Brady.Brookes@cms.hhs.gov>
Cc: Jordan Bearden <Jordan.Bearden@governor.arkansas.gov>
Subject: RE: Governor Hutchinson Phone Call Request

Great, thank you!

Best,

Jennifer Bruce
Office of Governor Asa Hutchinson
Director of Scheduling
501.683.6416
Jennifer.Bruce@governor.arkansas.gov
<http://governor.arkansas.gov/scheduling-request-form/>

From: Brookes, Brady (CMS/OA) [<mailto:Brady.Brookes@cms.hhs.gov>]
Sent: Tuesday, February 20, 2018 9:22 AM
To: Jennifer Bruce <jennifer.bruce@governor.arkansas.gov>
Cc: Jordan Bearden <Jordan.Bearden@governor.arkansas.gov>
Subject: RE: Governor Hutchinson Phone Call Request

Hi Jennifer,

Absolutely. I will connect with her scheduler and we will get back with you.

Thanks,
Brady

Confidential and deliberative, pre-decisional communication

From: Jennifer Bruce [<mailto:jennifer.bruce@governor.arkansas.gov>]
Sent: Tuesday, February 20, 2018 9:58 AM
To: Brookes, Brady (CMS/OA) <Brady.Brookes@cms.hhs.gov>
Cc: Jordan Bearden <Jordan.Bearden@governor.arkansas.gov>
Subject: Governor Hutchinson Phone Call Request

Good morning, Brady – I hope you are well!

Governor Hutchinson is hoping to schedule a phone call with Administrator Verma sometime this week, at her earliest convenience. Please let me know if this is a possibility, and we will do our best to accommodate the Administrator's schedule.

Thank you!

Best,

Jennifer Bruce

Office of Governor Asa Hutchinson

Director of Scheduling

501.683.6416

Jennifer.Bruce@governor.arkansas.gov

<http://governor.arkansas.gov/scheduling-request-form/>

From: [Jennifer Bruce](#)
To: [Brookes, Brady \(CMS/OA\)](#)
Cc: [Jordan Bearden](#); [Katie Beck](#); [Perez-Rivera, Diana \(CMS/OA\)](#)
Subject: RE: RE: Governor Hutchinson Phone Call Request
Date: Wednesday, February 21, 2018 10:21:22 AM

Wonderful, thank you!

Best,

Jennifer Bruce
Office of Governor Asa Hutchinson
Director of Scheduling
501.683.6416
Jennifer.Bruce@governor.arkansas.gov
<http://governor.arkansas.gov/scheduling-request-form/>

From: Brookes, Brady (CMS/OA) [mailto:Brady.Brookes@cms.hhs.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, February 21, 2018 8:57 AM
To: Jennifer Bruce <jennifer.bruce@governor.arkansas.gov>
Cc: Jordan Bearden <Jordan.Bearden@governor.arkansas.gov>; Katie Beck <Katie.Beck@governor.arkansas.gov>; Perez-Rivera, Diana (CMS/OA) <Diana.Perez-Rivera@cms.hhs.gov>
Subject: RE: Governor Hutchinson Phone Call Request

No problem. I am adding Diana who can help find a time.

Confidential and deliberative, pre-decisional communication

From: Jennifer Bruce [<mailto:jennifer.bruce@governor.arkansas.gov>]
Sent: Wednesday, February 21, 2018 9:53 AM
To: Brookes, Brady (CMS/OA) <Brady.Brookes@cms.hhs.gov>
Cc: Jordan Bearden <Jordan.Bearden@governor.arkansas.gov>; Katie Beck <Katie.Beck@governor.arkansas.gov>
Subject: RE: Governor Hutchinson Phone Call Request

Good morning, Brady,

Please accept my sincerest apology for the back and forth here – it was decided this morning that the Governor would like to proceed in scheduling a phone call with the Administrator this week.

I'll be happy to call to discuss further – please let me know. Thank you!

Best,

Jennifer Bruce

Office of Governor Asa Hutchinson
Director of Scheduling
501.683.6416
Jennifer.Bruce@governor.arkansas.gov
<http://governor.arkansas.gov/scheduling-request-form/>

From: Jennifer Bruce
Sent: Tuesday, February 20, 2018 2:45 PM
To: 'Brookes, Brady (CMS/OA)' <Brady.Brookes@cms.hhs.gov>
Cc: Jordan Bearden <Jordan.Bearden@governor.arkansas.gov>
Subject: RE: Governor Hutchinson Phone Call Request

Hi Brady,

My understanding is that Dennis Smith has been in touch and our issue has been resolved for now – please let me know if you have any questions. We appreciate your attention and responsiveness to this!

Best,

Jennifer Bruce
Office of Governor Asa Hutchinson
Director of Scheduling
501.683.6416
Jennifer.Bruce@governor.arkansas.gov
<http://governor.arkansas.gov/scheduling-request-form/>

From: Brookes, Brady (CMS/OA) [<mailto:Brady.Brookes@cms.hhs.gov>]
Sent: Tuesday, February 20, 2018 2:35 PM
To: Jennifer Bruce <jennifer.bruce@governor.arkansas.gov>
Cc: Jordan Bearden <Jordan.Bearden@governor.arkansas.gov>
Subject: RE: Governor Hutchinson Phone Call Request

Can you give me a call? It may be easier to talk through this.

(b)(6)

Confidential and deliberative, pre-decisional communication

From: Jennifer Bruce [<mailto:jennifer.bruce@governor.arkansas.gov>]
Sent: Tuesday, February 20, 2018 10:23 AM
To: Brookes, Brady (CMS/OA) <Brady.Brookes@cms.hhs.gov>
Cc: Jordan Bearden <Jordan.Bearden@governor.arkansas.gov>
Subject: RE: Governor Hutchinson Phone Call Request

Great, thank you!

Best,

Jennifer Bruce
Office of Governor Asa Hutchinson
Director of Scheduling
501.683.6416
Jennifer.Bruce@governor.arkansas.gov
<http://governor.arkansas.gov/scheduling-request-form/>

From: Brookes, Brady (CMS/OA) [<mailto:Brady.Brookes@cms.hhs.gov>]
Sent: Tuesday, February 20, 2018 9:22 AM
To: Jennifer Bruce <jennifer.bruce@governor.arkansas.gov>
Cc: Jordan Bearden <Jordan.Bearden@governor.arkansas.gov>
Subject: RE: Governor Hutchinson Phone Call Request

Hi Jennifer,

Absolutely. I will connect with her scheduler and we will get back with you.

Thanks,
Brady

Confidential and deliberative, pre-decisional communication

From: Jennifer Bruce [<mailto:jennifer.bruce@governor.arkansas.gov>]
Sent: Tuesday, February 20, 2018 9:58 AM
To: Brookes, Brady (CMS/OA) <Brady.Brookes@cms.hhs.gov>
Cc: Jordan Bearden <Jordan.Bearden@governor.arkansas.gov>
Subject: Governor Hutchinson Phone Call Request

Good morning, Brady – I hope you are well!

Governor Hutchinson is hoping to schedule a phone call with Administrator Verma sometime this week, at her earliest convenience. Please let me know if this is a possibility, and we will do our best to accommodate the Administrator's schedule.

Thank you!

Best,

Jennifer Bruce
Office of Governor Asa Hutchinson
Director of Scheduling
501.683.6416
Jennifer.Bruce@governor.arkansas.gov

<http://governor.arkansas.gov/scheduling-request-form/>

From: [Jennifer Bruce](#)
To: [Brookes, Brady \(CMS/OA\)](#)
Cc: [Jordan Bearden](#)
Subject: RE: RE: Governor Hutchinson Phone Call Request
Date: Tuesday, February 20, 2018 10:23:43 AM

Great, thank you!

Best,

Jennifer Bruce
Office of Governor Asa Hutchinson
Director of Scheduling
501.683.6416
Jennifer.Bruce@governor.arkansas.gov
<http://governor.arkansas.gov/scheduling-request-form/>

From: Brookes, Brady (CMS/OA) [mailto:Brady.Brookes@cms.hhs.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, February 20, 2018 9:22 AM
To: Jennifer Bruce <jennifer.bruce@governor.arkansas.gov>
Cc: Jordan Bearden <Jordan.Bearden@governor.arkansas.gov>
Subject: RE: Governor Hutchinson Phone Call Request

Hi Jennifer,

Absolutely. I will connect with her scheduler and we will get back with you.

Thanks,
Brady

Confidential and deliberative, pre-decisional communication

From: Jennifer Bruce [<mailto:jennifer.bruce@governor.arkansas.gov>]
Sent: Tuesday, February 20, 2018 9:58 AM
To: Brookes, Brady (CMS/OA) <Brady.Brookes@cms.hhs.gov>
Cc: Jordan Bearden <Jordan.Bearden@governor.arkansas.gov>
Subject: Governor Hutchinson Phone Call Request

Good morning, Brady – I hope you are well!

Governor Hutchinson is hoping to schedule a phone call with Administrator Verma sometime this week, at her earliest convenience. Please let me know if this is a possibility, and we will do our best to accommodate the Administrator's schedule.

Thank you!

Best,

Jennifer Bruce

Office of Governor Asa Hutchinson

Director of Scheduling

501.683.6416

Jennifer.Bruce@governor.arkansas.gov

<http://governor.arkansas.gov/scheduling-request-form/>

From: [Jennifer Bruce](#)
To: [Brookes, Brady \(CMS/OA\)](#)
Cc: [Jordan Bearden](#); [Katie Beck](#)
Subject: RE: RE: Governor Hutchinson Phone Call Request
Date: Wednesday, February 21, 2018 9:53:31 AM

Good morning, Brady,

Please accept my sincerest apology for the back and forth here – it was decided this morning that the Governor would like to proceed in scheduling a phone call with the Administrator this week.

I'll be happy to call to discuss further – please let me know. Thank you!

Best,

Jennifer Bruce
Office of Governor Asa Hutchinson
Director of Scheduling
501.683.6416
Jennifer.Bruce@governor.arkansas.gov
<http://governor.arkansas.gov/scheduling-request-form/>

From: Jennifer Bruce
Sent: Tuesday, February 20, 2018 2:45 PM
To: 'Brookes, Brady (CMS/OA)' <Brady.Brookes@cms.hhs.gov>
Cc: Jordan Bearden <Jordan.Bearden@governor.arkansas.gov>
Subject: RE: Governor Hutchinson Phone Call Request

Hi Brady,

My understanding is that Dennis Smith has been in touch and our issue has been resolved for now – please let me know if you have any questions. We appreciate your attention and responsiveness to this!

Best,

Jennifer Bruce
Office of Governor Asa Hutchinson
Director of Scheduling
501.683.6416
Jennifer.Bruce@governor.arkansas.gov
<http://governor.arkansas.gov/scheduling-request-form/>

From: Brookes, Brady (CMS/OA) [<mailto:Brady.Brookes@cms.hhs.gov>]
Sent: Tuesday, February 20, 2018 2:35 PM
To: Jennifer Bruce <jennifer.bruce@governor.arkansas.gov>

Cc: Jordan Bearden <Jordan.Bearden@governor.arkansas.gov>

Subject: RE: Governor Hutchinson Phone Call Request

Can you give me a call? It may be easier to talk through this.

(b)(6)

Confidential and deliberative, pre-decisional communication

From: Jennifer Bruce [<mailto:jennifer.bruce@governor.arkansas.gov>]

Sent: Tuesday, February 20, 2018 10:23 AM

To: Brookes, Brady (CMS/OA) <Brady.Brookes@cms.hhs.gov>

Cc: Jordan Bearden <Jordan.Bearden@governor.arkansas.gov>

Subject: RE: Governor Hutchinson Phone Call Request

Great, thank you!

Best,

Jennifer Bruce

Office of Governor Asa Hutchinson

Director of Scheduling

501.683.6416

Jennifer.Bruce@governor.arkansas.gov

<http://governor.arkansas.gov/scheduling-request-form/>

From: Brookes, Brady (CMS/OA) [<mailto:Brady.Brookes@cms.hhs.gov>]

Sent: Tuesday, February 20, 2018 9:22 AM

To: Jennifer Bruce <jennifer.bruce@governor.arkansas.gov>

Cc: Jordan Bearden <Jordan.Bearden@governor.arkansas.gov>

Subject: RE: Governor Hutchinson Phone Call Request

Hi Jennifer,

Absolutely. I will connect with her scheduler and we will get back with you.

Thanks,

Brady

Confidential and deliberative, pre-decisional communication

From: Jennifer Bruce [<mailto:jennifer.bruce@governor.arkansas.gov>]

Sent: Tuesday, February 20, 2018 9:58 AM

To: Brookes, Brady (CMS/OA) <Brady.Brookes@cms.hhs.gov>

Cc: Jordan Bearden <Jordan.Bearden@governor.arkansas.gov>

Subject: Governor Hutchinson Phone Call Request

Good morning, Brady – I hope you are well!

Governor Hutchinson is hoping to schedule a phone call with Administrator Verma sometime this week, at her earliest convenience. Please let me know if this is a possibility, and we will do our best to accommodate the Administrator's schedule.

Thank you!

Best,

Jennifer Bruce

Office of Governor Asa Hutchinson

Director of Scheduling

501.683.6416

Jennifer.Bruce@governor.arkansas.gov

<http://governor.arkansas.gov/scheduling-request-form/>

From: [Smith, Brenna](#)
To: [Bult, Nathan \(OS/ASP\)](#)
Cc: [Nic Pottebaum](#); [Lloyd, Matt \(OS/ASP\)](#); [Brookes, Brady \(CMS/OA\)](#); [Stephanie Groen](#)
Subject: Re: Re: Iowa Follow Up
Date: Monday, October 23, 2017 3:41:24 PM

<https://governor.iowa.gov/2017/10/iid-commissioner-iowa-to-withdraw-stopgap-measure-from-federal-consideration>

On Mon, Oct 23, 2017 at 2:18 PM, Bult, Nathan (OS/ASP) <Nathan.Bult@hhs.gov> wrote:

Can you send link to release once it is live?

From: Nic Pottebaum [mailto:nic.pottebaum@iowa.gov]
Sent: Monday, October 23, 2017 2:02 PM

To: Bult, Nathan (OS/ASP); Lloyd, Matt (OS/ASP)
Cc: Brookes, Brady (CMS/OA); Smith, Brenna; Stephanie Groen
Subject: Re: Iowa Follow Up

Thank you all. Our presser is at 2 pm CT. Release will go out at 2:15 pm CT. Our presser won't go longer than 2:30 pm CT.

On Mon, Oct 23, 2017 at 12:58 PM Lloyd, Matt (OS/ASP) <Matt.Lloyd@hhs.gov> wrote:

Green light

From: Pottebaum, Nic [mailto:nic.pottebaum@iowa.gov]
Sent: Monday, October 23, 2017 1:49 PM
To: Bult, Nathan (OS/ASP); Lloyd, Matt (OS/ASP)
Cc: Brookes, Brady (CMS/OA); Smith, Brenna; Stephanie Groen

Subject: Re: Iowa Follow Up

Sorry it took a bit longer. Here is the final quote.

Governor Kim Reynolds and CMS Administrator Seema Verma said in a joint statement, "Premiums under Obamacare have [increased](#) 110% for Iowans since 2013, and thousands of Iowans can no longer afford health insurance. Iowa pursued state flexibility through the Stopgap Measure, but ultimately, Obamacare is an inflexible law that

Congress must repeal and replace. Obamacare is unaffordable, unsustainable and unworkable.”

On Mon, Oct 23, 2017 at 11:51 AM, Nic Pottebaum <nic.pottebaum@iowa.gov> wrote:

Will send in a few mins.

On Mon, Oct 23, 2017 at 11:49 AM Bult, Nathan (OS/ASPA) <Nathan.Bult@hhs.gov> wrote:

Nic,

Administrator Verma would like to join Governor Reynolds on the statement. Can you send us the final version for one last review? Many thanks.

Nate

From: Pottebaum, Nic [mailto:nic.pottebaum@iowa.gov]

Sent: Monday, October 23, 2017 11:22 AM

To: Lloyd, Matt (OS/ASPA)

Cc: Bult, Nathan (OS/ASPA); Smith, Brenna; Stephanie Groen; Brookes, Brady (CMS/OA)

Subject: Re: Iowa Follow Up

All,

Below is the Governor's quote. If Administrator Verma wants to sign onto this that would be great.

"Premiums under Obamacare have [increased 110% since 2013](#) and thousands of Iowans can no longer afford health insurance," said Governor Kim Reynolds. "Iowa pursued state flexibility through the Stopgap Measure, but ultimately Obamacare is an inflexible law and Congress must repeal and replace it. Obamacare is unaffordable, unsustainable, and unworkable."

Also, we are sending out a media advisory at 10:30 AM CT (11:30 AM ET) about our press conference. I will forward that to you all shortly. The press conference will be at 2:00 PM CT (3:00 PM ET). Our press release will go out then. Lastly, our press conferences are live streamed on YouTube here: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCmISFMoFOM6fo6PeXdHxGDg/featured>

Thanks,

Nic

On Mon, Oct 23, 2017 at 10:10 AM, Pottebaum, Nic <nic.pottebaum@iowa.gov> wrote:

We are finalizing the Governor's quote and getting her final approval. She is out of a meeting at 11:30 AM ET. We will send a draft statement over shortly for your review.

Nic

On Mon, Oct 23, 2017 at 9:43 AM, Lloyd, Matt (OS/ASPA) <Matt.Lloyd@hhs.gov> wrote:

Hey guys, I'm adding Ryan Murphy from our team as well. Do you have draft statement? We would like do joint statement if possible with governor and administrator.

From: Pottebaum, Nic [mailto:nic.pottebaum@iowa.gov]
Sent: Sunday, October 22, 2017 4:54 PM
To: Lloyd, Matt (OS/ASPA); Bult, Nathan (OS/ASPA)
Cc: Smith, Brenna; Stephanie Groen; Brookes, Brady (CMS/OA)
Subject: Iowa Follow Up

Matt and Nate,

Good to touchbase with you all. Let us know where you all land on having a joint statement. Our plan is for a Monday, October 23rd at 2:00 PM CT (3:00 PM ET) announcement.

I've CCed Brenna Smith, our press secretary. Brenna's email and cell are: brenna.smith@iowa.gov and (b)(6) I've also CCed Stephanie Groen, our state-federal relations director. Stephanie's email and cell are: stephanie.groen@iowa.gov and (b)(6)

Please include all three of us on communications back and forth with Iowa. My cell is

(b)(6)

Thanks,

Nic

--

Nicholas Pottebaum | Policy Advisor
Office of the Governor, State of Iowa
Gov. Kim Reynolds & Lt. Gov. Adam Gregg
515.725.3505 | Nic.Pottebaum@iowa.gov
www.governor.iowa.gov
www.ltgovernor.iowa.gov

--

Nicholas Pottebaum | Policy Advisor
Office of the Governor, State of Iowa
Gov. Kim Reynolds & Lt. Gov. Adam Gregg
515.725.3505 | Nic.Pottebaum@iowa.gov
www.governor.iowa.gov

www.ltgovernor.iowa.gov

--

Nicholas Pottebaum | Policy Advisor
Office of the Governor, State of Iowa
Gov. Kim Reynolds & Lt. Gov. Adam Gregg
515.725.3505 | Nic.Pottebaum@iowa.gov
www.governor.iowa.gov
www.ltgovernor.iowa.gov

--

Nicholas Pottebaum | Policy Advisor
Office of the Governor, State of Iowa
Gov. Kim Reynolds & Lt. Gov. Adam Gregg
515.725.3505 | Nic.Pottebaum@iowa.gov
www.governor.iowa.gov
www.ltgovernor.iowa.gov

--

Nicholas Pottebaum | Policy Advisor
Office of the Governor, State of Iowa
Gov. Kim Reynolds & Lt. Gov. Adam Gregg
515.725.3505 | Nic.Pottebaum@iowa.gov
www.governor.iowa.gov
www.ltgovernor.iowa.gov

--

Nicholas Pottebaum | Policy Advisor
Office of the Governor, State of Iowa
Gov. Kim Reynolds & Lt. Gov. Adam Gregg
515.725.3505 | Nic.Pottebaum@iowa.gov
www.governor.iowa.gov
www.ltgovernor.iowa.gov

--

Brenna Smith | Press Secretary
Office of the Governor, State of Iowa
Gov. Kim Reynolds & Lt. Gov. Adam Gregg
515.725.3507 | brenna.smith@iowa.gov
www.governor.iowa.gov
www.ltgovernor.iowa.gov

From: [Pottebaum, Nic](#)
To: [Bult, Nathan \(OS/ASPA\)](#); [Lloyd, Matt \(OS/ASPA\)](#)
Cc: [Brookes, Brady \(CMS/OA\)](#); [Smith, Brenna](#); [Stephanie Groen](#)
Subject: Re: Re: Iowa Follow Up
Date: Monday, October 23, 2017 1:55:36 PM

Please confirm it is still good. Will include in our press release as written.

Thanks,
Nic

On Mon, Oct 23, 2017 at 12:48 PM, Pottebaum, Nic <nic.pottebaum@iowa.gov> wrote:
Sorry it took a bit longer. Here is the final quote.

Governor Kim Reynolds and CMS Administrator Seema Verma said in a joint statement, "Premiums under Obamacare have [increased](#) 110% for Iowans since 2013, and thousands of Iowans can no longer afford health insurance. Iowa pursued state flexibility through the Stopgap Measure, but ultimately, Obamacare is an inflexible law that Congress must repeal and replace. Obamacare is unaffordable, unsustainable and unworkable."

On Mon, Oct 23, 2017 at 11:51 AM, Nic Pottebaum <nic.pottebaum@iowa.gov> wrote:
Will send in a few mins.

On Mon, Oct 23, 2017 at 11:49 AM Bult, Nathan (OS/ASPA) <Nathan.Bult@hhs.gov> wrote:

Nic,

Administrator Verma would like to join Governor Reynolds on the statement. Can you send us the final version for one last review? Many thanks.

Nate

From: Pottebaum, Nic [mailto:nic.pottebaum@iowa.gov]
Sent: Monday, October 23, 2017 11:22 AM
To: Lloyd, Matt (OS/ASPA)
Cc: Bult, Nathan (OS/ASPA); Smith, Brenna; Stephanie Groen; Brookes, Brady (CMS/OA)
Subject: Re: Iowa Follow Up

All,

Below is the Governor's quote. If Administrator Verma wants to sign onto this that would be great.

"Premiums under Obamacare have [increased 110% since 2013](#) and thousands of Iowans can no longer afford health insurance," said Governor Kim Reynolds. "Iowa pursued state flexibility through the Stopgap Measure, but ultimately Obamacare is an inflexible law and Congress must repeal and replace it. Obamacare is unaffordable, unsustainable, and unworkable."

Also, we are sending out a media advisory at 10:30 AM CT (11:30 AM ET) about our press conference. I will forward that to you all shortly. The press conference will be at 2:00 PM CT (3:00 PM ET). Our press release will go out then. Lastly, our press conferences are live streamed on YouTube here: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCmISFMoFOM6fo6PeXdHxGDg/featured>

Thanks,

Nic

On Mon, Oct 23, 2017 at 10:10 AM, Pottebaum, Nic <nic.pottebaum@iowa.gov> wrote:

We are finalizing the Governor's quote and getting her final approval. She is out of a meeting at 11:30 AM ET. We will send a draft statement over shortly for your review.

Nic

On Mon, Oct 23, 2017 at 9:43 AM, Lloyd, Matt (OS/ASPA) <Matt.Lloyd@hhs.gov> wrote:

Hey guys, I'm adding Ryan Murphy from our team as well. Do you have draft statement? We would like to do joint statement if possible with governor and administrator.

From: Pottebaum, Nic [mailto:nic.pottebaum@iowa.gov]
Sent: Sunday, October 22, 2017 4:54 PM
To: Lloyd, Matt (OS/ASPA); Bult, Nathan (OS/ASPA)
Cc: Smith, Brenna; Stephanie Groen; Brookes, Brady (CMS/OA)
Subject: Iowa Follow Up

Matt and Nate,

Good to touchbase with you all. Let us know where you all land on having a joint statement. Our plan is for a Monday, October 23rd at 2:00 PM CT (3:00 PM ET) announcement.

I've CCed Brenna Smith, our press secretary. Brenna's email and cell are: brenna.smith@iowa.gov and (b)(6) I've also CCed Stephanie Groen, our state-federal relations director. Stephanie's email and cell are: stephanie.groen@iowa.gov and (b)(6)

Please include all three of us on communications back and forth with Iowa. My cell is

(b)(6)

Thanks,

Nic

--

Nicholas Pottebaum | Policy Advisor
Office of the Governor, State of Iowa
Gov. Kim Reynolds & Lt. Gov. Adam Gregg
515.725.3505 | Nic.Pottebaum@iowa.gov
www.governor.iowa.gov
www.ltgovernor.iowa.gov

--

Nicholas Pottebaum | Policy Advisor
Office of the Governor, State of Iowa
Gov. Kim Reynolds & Lt. Gov. Adam Gregg
515.725.3505 | Nic.Pottebaum@iowa.gov
www.governor.iowa.gov
www.ltgovernor.iowa.gov

--

Nicholas Pottebaum | Policy Advisor
Office of the Governor, State of Iowa
Gov. Kim Reynolds & Lt. Gov. Adam Gregg
515.725.3505 | Nic.Pottebaum@iowa.gov
www.governor.iowa.gov
www.ltgovernor.iowa.gov

--

Nicholas Pottebaum | Policy Advisor
Office of the Governor, State of Iowa
Gov. Kim Reynolds & Lt. Gov. Adam Gregg
515.725.3505 | Nic.Pottebaum@iowa.gov
www.governor.iowa.gov
www.ltgovernor.iowa.gov

--

Nicholas Pottebaum | Policy Advisor
Office of the Governor, State of Iowa
Gov. Kim Reynolds & Lt. Gov. Adam Gregg
515.725.3505 | Nic.Pottebaum@iowa.gov
www.governor.iowa.gov
www.ltgovernor.iowa.gov

--

Nicholas Pottebaum | Policy Advisor
Office of the Governor, State of Iowa
Gov. Kim Reynolds & Lt. Gov. Adam Gregg

515.725.3505 | Nic.Pottebaum@iowa.gov
www.governor.iowa.gov
www.ltgovernor.iowa.gov

From: [Pottebaum, Nic](#)
To: [Monroe, Johnathan \(CMS/OC\)](#)
Cc: [Brookes, Brady \(CMS/OA\)](#); [Stier, Mikki \[DHS\]](#)
Subject: Re: Re: Iowa Medicaid--Follow Up Today
Date: Friday, November 24, 2017 3:17:41 PM

Johnathan,

We just got ahold of Matt. We are calling the Cedar Rapids Gazette reporter now clarifying we shouldn't have used the word approval and retracting that. We will offer a statement (see below) that mirrors yours. Hope this brings clarify for the reporter.

Iowa's Statement to Cedar Rapids Gazette:

- Initially, Iowa Medicaid stated we needed 'approval' from CMS to temporarily suspend choice for Medicaid beneficiaries. Using the term 'approval' was inaccurate. An 'approval' from CMS to suspend choice is not necessary. Iowa has not requested any additional waiver authority as part of this transition, but is in constant communication with CMS. Iowa Medicaid is proceeding forward in temporarily suspending choice for Medicaid beneficiaries.
- Iowa Medicaid has remained in constant communication with CMS as we prepare this transition. States generally have the ability to manage their programs in situations such as this within existing statutory and regulatory authorities. CMS has offered our full support to Iowa to help provide as smooth an experience as possible for all impacted beneficiaries.

Thanks,
Nic

On Fri, Nov 24, 2017 at 7:49 PM, Nic Pottebaum <nic.pottebaum@iowa.gov> wrote:
Jonathan,

Works for me. I'm having difficulty getting ahold of Matt as well. Please proceed. I've CCed our Medicaid Director, Mikki. She is in the loop.

I will make sure we follow up with Cedar Rapids Gazette and clarify from our end.

I appreciate all the work you all did to clear this up especially around a holiday.

Thanks,
Nic

On Fri, Nov 24, 2017 at 1:46 PM Monroe, Johnathan (CMS/OC) <Johnathan.Monroe@cms.hhs.gov> wrote:

Nic, I am also slightly changing the previous on the record statement slightly to make it clear that we are aware of the state's actions. We sent this last night but on further review it wasn't as clear as we needed. My fault. I think that was a major hang up with the journalists. Thanks. Moving forward with sending to reporters. I think we should be clear now.

Previous On-the-Record statement

"CMS has remained in constant communication with Iowa officials as they have prepared for this transition. States generally have the ability to manage their programs in situations such as this within existing statutory and regulatory authorities. We are aware of the state's actions and we have offered our full support to Iowa to help provide as smooth an experience as possible for all impacted beneficiaries."

From: Nic Pottebaum [mailto:nic.pottebaum@iowa.gov]

Sent: Friday, November 24, 2017 2:43 PM

To: Brookes, Brady (CMS/OA) <Brady.Brookes@cms.hhs.gov>

Cc: Monroe, Johnathan (CMS/OC) <Johnathan.Monroe@cms.hhs.gov>

Subject: Re: Iowa Medicaid--Follow Up Today

Thanks!

On Fri, Nov 24, 2017 at 1:08 PM Brookes, Brady (CMS/OA) <Brady.Brookes@cms.hhs.gov> wrote:

Adding Nic from Iowa who I have been working with.

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Monroe, Johnathan (CMS/OC)"

<Johnathan.Monroe@cms.hhs.gov>

Date: November 24, 2017 at 1:45:13 PM EST

To: "Neale, Brian (CMS/CMCS)" <Brian.Neale@cms.hhs.gov>

Cc: "Brookes, Brady (CMS/OA)" <Brady.Brookes@cms.hhs.gov>, "Lynch, Calder (CMS/OA)" <Calder.Lynch@cms.hhs.gov>

Subject: RE: Iowa Medicaid--Follow Up Today

Sorry for the many emails. I am moving forward with the statement at around 2:45 today. I sent the statement to Matt, called him, gave him my number. Not

much else I can do and I want to make sure we are setting the record straight. Iowa has our statement and plan.

From: Monroe, Johnathan (CMS/OC)
Sent: Friday, November 24, 2017 12:52 PM
To: Neale, Brian (CMS/CMCS) <brian.neale@cms.hhs.gov>
Cc: Brookes, Brady (CMS/OA) <Brady.Brookes@cms.hhs.gov>; Lynch, Calder (CMS/OA) <calder.lynch@cms.hhs.gov>
Subject: RE: Iowa Medicaid--Follow Up Today

The state contact is not responding to emails or phone calls and I received his out of office. I will keep trying but perhaps we share the statement with the group Brady was speaking to as well. Both reporters plan to go to print tomorrow so it is imperative that we provide a statement within the next couple of hours so they can file their stories and go through their editorial process.

Statement

Iowa has not requested any additional waiver authority as part of this transition. The state has kept CMS apprised of their actions since learning that AmeriHealth was exiting the market as well as the challenges associated with the capacity at AmeriGroup. CMS has been working with the state to address their immediate needs, but has no pending decisions before it for consideration related to the transition. CMS intends to continue working with the state to help ensure it comes back into full compliance with the choice provisions in the managed care regulations in a meaningful and measured way so as not to create further disruption to the beneficiaries and providers.

--

Nicholas Pottebaum | Policy Advisor
Office of the Governor, State of Iowa
Gov. Kim Reynolds & Lt. Gov. Adam Gregg
515.725.3505 | Nic.Pottebaum@iowa.gov
www.governor.iowa.gov
www.ltgovernor.iowa.gov

--

Nicholas Pottebaum | Policy Advisor

Office of the Governor, State of Iowa
Gov. Kim Reynolds & Lt. Gov. Adam Gregg
515.725.3505 | Nic.Pottebaum@iowa.gov
www.governor.iowa.gov
www.ltgovernor.iowa.gov

--

Nicholas Pottebaum | Policy Advisor
Office of the Governor, State of Iowa
Gov. Kim Reynolds & Lt. Gov. Adam Gregg
515.725.3505 | Nic.Pottebaum@iowa.gov
www.governor.iowa.gov
www.ltgovernor.iowa.gov

From: [Jennifer Bruce](#)
To: [Tignor, Beth \(HHS/IOS\)](#); [Johnston, Darcie \(HHS/IEA\)](#); [Katie Beck](#); [Brookes, Brady \(CMS/OA\)](#); [Alison Williams](#)
Cc: [Hoelscher, Douglas L. EOP/WHO](#) (b)(6); [Norton, Jane \(OS/IEA\)](#)
Subject: RE: RE: Meeting with Governor Hutchinson
Date: Tuesday, November 14, 2017 4:46:45 PM

Thank you! I'll get back to you on the vehicle.

Best,

Jennifer Bruce
Office of Governor Asa Hutchinson
Director of Scheduling
501.683.6416
Jennifer.Bruce@governor.arkansas.gov
<http://governor.arkansas.gov/scheduling-request-form/>

From: Tignor, Beth (HHS/IOS) [mailto:Beth.Tignor@hhs.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, November 14, 2017 2:34 PM
To: Jennifer Bruce <jennifer.bruce@governor.arkansas.gov>; Johnston, Darcie (HHS/IEA) <Darcie.Johnston@hhs.gov>; Katie Beck <Katie.Beck@governor.arkansas.gov>; Brookes, Brady (CMS/OA) <Brady.Brookes@cms.hhs.gov>; Alison Williams <Alison.Williams@governor.arkansas.gov>
Cc: Hoelscher, Douglas L. EOP/WHO (b)(6); (b)(6) Norton, Jane (OS/IEA) <Jane.Norton@hhs.gov>
Subject: RE: Meeting with Governor Hutchinson

Jennifer-

The address here is The Hubert Humphrey Building, 200 Independence Ave, SW. Will he be driving ? We can make arrangements for parking if necessary, please provide the make & model of the vehicle and the license plate.

Once he is here we will have staff meet him and his party in the lobby to escort them to the Secretary Suite for the meeting.

Please feel free to call with any questions,

Best wishes

Beth

From: Jennifer Bruce [mailto:jennifer.bruce@governor.arkansas.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, November 14, 2017 3:07 PM
To: Tignor, Beth (HHS/IOS); Johnston, Darcie (HHS/IEA); Katie Beck; Brookes, Brady (CMS/OA); Alison Williams
Cc: Hoelscher, Douglas L. EOP/WHO (b)(6); Norton, Jane (OS/IEA)
Subject: RE: Meeting with Governor Hutchinson

Okay, great!

Will you please forward to me the address and exact location of the meeting?

Best,

Jennifer Bruce
Office of Governor Asa Hutchinson
Director of Scheduling
501.683.6416
Jennifer.Bruce@governor.arkansas.gov
<http://governor.arkansas.gov/scheduling-request-form/>

From: Tignor, Beth (HHS/IOS) [<mailto:Beth.Tignor@hhs.gov>]
Sent: Tuesday, November 14, 2017 2:05 PM
To: Jennifer Bruce <jennifer.bruce@governor.arkansas.gov>; Johnston, Darcie (HHS/IEA) <Darcie.Johnston@hhs.gov>; Katie Beck <Katie.Beck@governor.arkansas.gov>; Brookes, Brady (CMS/OA) <Brady.Brookes@cms.hhs.gov>; Alison Williams <Alison.Williams@governor.arkansas.gov>
Cc: Hoelscher, Douglas L. EOP/WHO (b)(6) Norton, Jane (OS/IEA) <Jane.Norton@hhs.gov>
Subject: RE: Meeting with Governor Hutchinson

Yes, that would be best.
Thank you
Beth

From: Jennifer Bruce [<mailto:jennifer.bruce@governor.arkansas.gov>]
Sent: Tuesday, November 14, 2017 3:02 PM
To: Tignor, Beth (HHS/IOS); Johnston, Darcie (HHS/IEA); Katie Beck; Brookes, Brady (CMS/OA); Alison Williams
Cc: Hoelscher, Douglas L. EOP/WHO (b)(6) Norton, Jane (OS/IEA)
Subject: RE: Meeting with Governor Hutchinson

Great! If possible, I think that would be ideal.

Best,

Jennifer Bruce
Office of Governor Asa Hutchinson
Director of Scheduling
501.683.6416
Jennifer.Bruce@governor.arkansas.gov
<http://governor.arkansas.gov/scheduling-request-form/>

From: Tignor, Beth (HHS/IOS) [<mailto:Beth.Tignor@hhs.gov>]
Sent: Tuesday, November 14, 2017 1:44 PM
To: Jennifer Bruce <jennifer.bruce@governor.arkansas.gov>; Johnston, Darcie (HHS/IEA) <Darcie.Johnston@hhs.gov>; Katie Beck <Katie.Beck@governor.arkansas.gov>; Brookes, Brady (CMS/OA) <Brady.Brookes@cms.hhs.gov>; Alison Williams

<Alison.Williams@governor.arkansas.gov>

Cc: Hoelscher, Douglas L. EOP/WHO

(b)(6)

(b)(6)

; Norton, Jane (OS/IEA) <Jane.Norton@hhs.gov>

Subject: RE: Meeting with Governor Hutchinson

Yes, we can do 11:30 am . Will this meeting take place here at HHS?

From: Jennifer Bruce [<mailto:jennifer.bruce@governor.arkansas.gov>]

Sent: Tuesday, November 14, 2017 2:39 PM

To: Johnston, Darcie (HHS/IEA); Katie Beck; Tignor, Beth (HHS/IOS); Brookes, Brady (CMS/OA); Alison Williams

Cc: Hoelscher, Douglas L. EOP/WHO

(b)(6)

Norton, Jane (OS/IEA)

Subject: RE: Meeting with Governor Hutchinson

Hi Darcie and Beth,

Will 11:30am EST work for all parties?

Best,

Jennifer Bruce

Office of Governor Asa Hutchinson

Director of Scheduling

501.683.6416

Jennifer.Bruce@governor.arkansas.gov

<http://governor.arkansas.gov/scheduling-request-form/>

From: Johnston, Darcie (HHS/IEA) [<mailto:Darcie.Johnston@hhs.gov>]

Sent: Tuesday, November 14, 2017 1:33 PM

To: Katie Beck <Katie.Beck@governor.arkansas.gov>; Tignor, Beth (HHS/IOS)

<Beth.Tignor@hhs.gov>; Brookes, Brady (CMS/OA) <Brady.Brookes@cms.hhs.gov>; Alison Williams

<Alison.Williams@governor.arkansas.gov>

Cc: Hoelscher, Douglas L. EOP/WHO

(b)(6)

(b)(6)

Norton, Jane (OS/IEA) <Jane.Norton@hhs.gov>; Jennifer

Bruce <jennifer.bruce@governor.arkansas.gov>

Subject: RE: Meeting with Governor Hutchinson

Great. Beth the Governor's scheduler will send the Governor's availability. Brady once we have a time, I will send out the conference call number. Thanks, Darcie

From: Katie Beck [<mailto:Katie.Beck@governor.arkansas.gov>]

Sent: Tuesday, November 14, 2017 2:16 PM

To: Johnston, Darcie (HHS/IEA); Tignor, Beth (HHS/IOS); Brookes, Brady (CMS/OA); Alison Williams

Cc: Hoelscher, Douglas L. EOP/WHO

(b)(6)

Norton, Jane (OS/IEA);

Jennifer Bruce

Subject: Re: Meeting with Governor Hutchinson

Adding Alison

From: Katie Beck <katie.beck@governor.arkansas.gov>
Date: Tuesday, November 14, 2017 at 12:45 PM
To: "Johnston, Darcie (HHS/IEA)" <Darcie.Johnston@hhs.gov>, "alison.williams@governor.arkansas.gov" <alison.williams@governor.arkansas.gov>, "Tignor, Beth (HHS/IOS)" <Beth.Tignor@hhs.gov>, "Brookes, Brady (CMS/OA)" <Brady.Brookes@cms.hhs.gov>
Cc: "Hoelscher, Douglas" [REDACTED] Jane Norton <Jane.Norton@hhs.gov>, Jennifer Bruce <jennifer.bruce@governor.arkansas.gov>
Subject: Re: Meeting with Governor Hutchinson

Darcie,

Governor Hutchinson would still like to meet with the Secretary on 11/21. I'm copying Jennifer Bruce as well to help arrange a time.

Katie Beck
Director of State-Federal Relations
Office of Governor Asa Hutchinson
444 North Capitol St, NW Suite 365
Washington, DC 20001
(O): 202-220-1329
(C): [REDACTED]

From: "Johnston, Darcie (HHS/IEA)" <Darcie.Johnston@hhs.gov>
Date: Tuesday, November 14, 2017 at 2:38 PM
To: "alison.williams@governor.arkansas.gov" <alison.williams@governor.arkansas.gov>, Katie Beck <katie.beck@governor.arkansas.gov>, "Tignor, Beth (HHS/IOS)" <Beth.Tignor@hhs.gov>, "Brookes, Brady (CMS/OA)" <Brady.Brookes@cms.hhs.gov>
Cc: "Hoelscher, Douglas" [REDACTED] Jane Norton <Jane.Norton@hhs.gov>
Subject: Meeting with Governor Hutchinson

Hi Alison and Katie-

I understand from Doug Hoelscher that Governor Hutchinson would like to meet with Secretary Hargan on 11/21. Secretary Hargan is available to meet with Governor Hutchinson at HHS on 11/21 and Administrator Verma will be able to call in to this meeting. Please suggest a couple of times that would work for the Governor's schedule and Beth in the Secretary's scheduling office will confirm. Thanks, Darcie

Darcie L. Johnston
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
Office of the Secretary

Director, Intergovernmental Affairs
202-690-1058 (office)

(b)(6) (cell)

Darcie.Johnston@HHS.gov

From: [Pottebaum, Nic](#)
To: [Brookes, Brady \(CMS/OA\)](#)
Subject: Re: Re: Paper
Date: Friday, November 24, 2017 11:13:31 AM

Got it.

On Fri, Nov 24, 2017 at 4:12 PM, Brookes, Brady (CMS/OA)

<Brady.Brookes@cms.hhs.gov> wrote:

We are via email, but I would like to connect our press person to the Iowa Medicaid Press person.

Sent from my iPhone

On Nov 24, 2017, at 11:10 AM, Pottebaum, Nic <nic.pottebaum@iowa.gov> wrote:

Ok great. Are you guys going on background via email or over the phone?

What I can do is have our press person for Iowa Medicaid who has handled all of this follow up with the same wording (if via email) or just send something to the Cedar Rapids Gazette right away. What I'd have our press person send would be this (open to edits):

Initially, Iowa Medicaid said we needed 'approval' from CMS to temporarily suspend choice for Medicaid beneficiaries. Using the term 'approval' was not accurate. In fact, an 'approval' to suspend choice from CMS is not necessary. Iowa Medicaid is proceeding forward in temporarily suspending choice for Medicaid beneficiaries..

Iowa Medicaid has remained in constant communication with CMS as we prepare this transition. States generally have the ability to manage their programs in situations such as this within existing statutory and regulatory authorities. CMS has offered our full support to Iowa to help provide as smooth an experience as possible for all impacted beneficiaries.

On Fri, Nov 24, 2017 at 9:54 AM Brookes, Brady (CMS/OA)

<Brady.Brookes@cms.hhs.gov> wrote:

It's the reporter at the Cedar Rapids Gazette.

Sent from my iPhone

--

Nicholas Pottebaum | Policy Advisor
Office of the Governor, State of Iowa

Gov. Kim Reynolds & Lt. Gov. Adam Gregg
515.725.3505 | Nic.Pottebaum@iowa.gov
www.governor.iowa.gov
www.ltgovernor.iowa.gov

From: [Pottebaum, Nic](#)
To: [Brookes, Brady \(CMS/OA\)](#)
Cc: [Highland, Matt](#); [Stier, Mikki \[DHS\]](#)
Subject: Re: Re: Press contact at Iowa
Date: Friday, November 24, 2017 11:13:53 AM

Left this off: Matt's cell is (b)(6)

On Fri, Nov 24, 2017 at 4:11 PM, Pottebaum, Nic <nic.pottebaum@iowa.gov> wrote:
Brady,

Yes. I'm CCing Matt Highland, who is the communications person for the Iowa Department of Human Services/Iowa Medicaid Enterprise. I've also CCed our state's Medicaid Director, Mikki Stier. Matt Highland is the person the press staff should work with directly.

Thanks,
Nic

On Fri, Nov 24, 2017 at 4:10 PM, Brookes, Brady (CMS/OA) <Brady.Brookes@cms.hhs.gov> wrote:

Is there someone I can have our Press staff work with so that they are looping them in on what is going on?

Sent from my iPhone

--

Nicholas Pottebaum | Policy Advisor
Office of the Governor, State of Iowa
Gov. Kim Reynolds & Lt. Gov. Adam Gregg
515.725.3505 | Nic.Pottebaum@iowa.gov
www.governor.iowa.gov
www.ltgovernor.iowa.gov

--

Nicholas Pottebaum | Policy Advisor
Office of the Governor, State of Iowa
Gov. Kim Reynolds & Lt. Gov. Adam Gregg
515.725.3505 | Nic.Pottebaum@iowa.gov
www.governor.iowa.gov
www.ltgovernor.iowa.gov

From: Brenna Smith
To: Groen, Stephanie; Lloyd, Matt (OS/ASPA); Brookes, Brady (CMS/OA); Bult, Nathan (OS/ASPA)
Cc: Nic Pottebaum; Ryan Koopmans
Subject: Re: Re: RELEASE: IID commissioner: Iowa to withdraw stopgap measure from federal consideration
Date: Monday, October 23, 2017 3:24:46 PM

<https://governor.iowa.gov/2017/10/iid-commissioner-iowa-to-withdraw-stopgap-measure-from-federal-consideration>

On Mon, Oct 23, 2017 at 2:22 PM Groen, Stephanie <stephanie.groen@iowa.gov> wrote:
FYI that the press release just went live. I don't believe it's on the website yet, but once it is you will be able to find it here: <https://governor.iowa.gov/press-releases>

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Press Releases from Iowa Governor's Office <IowaGovernorsOffice@public.govdelivery.com>
Date: Mon, Oct 23, 2017 at 3:16 PM
Subject: RELEASE: IID commissioner: Iowa to withdraw stopgap measure from federal consideration
To: stephanie.groen@iowa.gov

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

Governor Kim Reynolds ★ Lt. Governor Adam Gregg

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Monday, October 23, 2017

CONTACT: Brenna Smith, (515) 281-5211

IID commissioner: Iowa to withdraw stopgap measure from federal consideration

(DES MOINES) – Iowa Insurance Division (IID) Commissioner Doug Ommen announced Monday afternoon that Iowa is [withdrawing](#) its Section 1332 Waiver, also known as the Iowa Stopgap Measure, from federal consideration. The Stopgap Measure was a conservative and innovative approach to relieve Iowans suffering under Obamacare. Congress must repeal Obamacare, returning power to states, so states like Iowa can implement innovative solutions that fit their needs. Healthcare reform must be affordable for everyday Iowans and empower consumers to have high quality healthcare.

“Premiums under Obamacare have [increased](#) 110% for Iowans since 2013, and thousands of Iowans can no longer afford health insurance,” Governor Kim Reynolds and the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) Administrator Seema Verma said in a joint statement. “Iowa pursued state flexibility through the Stopgap Measure, but ultimately, Obamacare is an inflexible law that Congress must repeal and replace. Obamacare is unaffordable, unsustainable and unworkable.”

“Obamacare is an unworkable law,” IID Commissioner Ommen said. “The Stopgap Measure was an innovative solution to help thousands of Iowans. Unfortunately, Obamacare’s waiver rules are so inflexible

that the Stopgap cannot be approved under terms that would be workable for Iowa. This is evidenced by the fact that a bipartisan group of senators recently announced a bill to fix some of the inflexibilities on Obamacare’s waiver provision that Iowa has run into.”

Iowa appreciates President Donald Trump and his administration’s commitment to state flexibility, including CMS Administrator Seema Verma’s hard work and commitment to innovation so states can administer healthcare systems that fit their needs. But, Obamacare was written in an inflexible way, and Iowa could not receive the terms it needed to move forward with the Stopgap Measure. Obamacare’s Section 1332 says that states can file for an innovative waiver, but if those states are facing a failing market, and if they are successful in stabilizing the market and bringing people back in, the waiver will not work. In other words, the title of Section 1332—“state innovation waivers”—is an oxymoron.

Recently, President Trump signed an [executive order](#) promoting healthcare choice and competition. We are hopeful that expansion of short-term health plans and association plans for individuals will provide much needed relief in the near future. Additionally, Iowans eligible for Obamacare subsidies or who can afford the high cost of Obamacare will be able to sign up for health insurance on [healthcare.gov](#), starting November 1, 2017, with Medica.

Iowa’s Section 1332 Waiver – Stopgap Measure Timeline

Last spring, Iowa faced no health carriers in all 99 counties for the individual health insurance market. Iowa developed the Stopgap Measure as a short-term solution as Congress acted to stabilize the health insurance market with a long-term solution.

The Stopgap Measure was a conservative and innovative solution to cover more Iowans and keep premiums lower. Below is a timeline of the Stopgap Measure. Section 1332 Waivers in Obamacare are unworkable as they are not designed to fix collapsing individual health insurance markets created by Obamacare. Congress must take action to fix this.

Date	Milestone
April	All Iowa’s health carriers either withdraw or signal they are going to withdraw. Iowans will have no health insurance options in the individual market in 2018.
May 4	House of Representatives passes the American Health Care Act that included the State Stabilization Fund for collapsing individual health insurance markets.
Late May	Governor Reynolds takes the oath of office and directs Iowa’s Insurance Commissioner Doug Ommen to come up with a solution.
June 12	Iowa releases the Stopgap Measure to relieve suffering Iowans from Obamacare and begins the state public comment on the Stopgap Measure.
June 19	Medica files to be in the Obamacare market. They later amend their filing to show a 57% rate increase.
June - August	State comment period, with four public hearings. Iowa hears overwhelmingly that Iowans support the Stopgap Measure.
August 21	With overwhelming support from Iowans, business groups, medical professionals and other

	stakeholders, Iowa submits the Stopgap Measure Waiver request for federal consideration.
September 19	CMS sends Iowa the completeness letter, which starts the 30-day federal comment period.
September 20 & October 6	Iowa amends the Stopgap to cover certain levels of out-of-pocket cost for low-income Iowans. As Iowa made those adjustments, the Stopgap Measure becomes more expensive and looks less and less like state flexibility and more like Obamacare.
October 19	Federal 30-day public comment period ends.
October 20	Iowa receives letter from CMS outlining how federal funding will be calculated for the waiver.

###

Stay Connected with the Office of the Governor of Iowa:



[Manage Subscriptions](#) | [Help](#)

This email was sent to stephanie.groen@iowa.gov using GovDelivery Communications Cloud on behalf of: [State of Iowa - 1007 E Grand Ave - Des Moines, IA 50319](#)



--

Stephanie Groen | Director of State-Federal Relations

Office of the Governor, State of Iowa

Gov. Kim Reynolds and Lt. Gov. Adam Gregg

202.624.5479 | stephanie.groen@iowa.gov

www.governor.iowa.gov

www.ltgovernor.iowa.gov

--

Brenna Smith | Press Secretary

Office of the Governor, State of Iowa

Gov. Kim Reynolds & Lt. Gov. Adam Gregg

515.725.3507 | brenna.smith@iowa.gov

www.governor.iowa.gov

www.ltgovernor.iowa.gov

From: [Pottebaum, Nic](#)
To: [Brookes, Brady \(CMS/OA\)](#)
Subject: Re: Re: Time to touch base today?
Date: Monday, November 6, 2017 12:32:31 PM

Thanks!

On Mon, Nov 6, 2017 at 11:30 AM, Brookes, Brady (CMS/OA) <Brady.Brookes@cms.hhs.gov> wrote:

I will give you a call at 2:30.

From: Pottebaum, Nic [mailto:nic.pottebaum@iowa.gov]
Sent: Monday, November 6, 2017 10:36 AM
To: Brookes, Brady (CMS/OA) <Brady.Brookes@cms.hhs.gov>
Subject: Re: Time to touch base today?

Also, if this morning doesn't work, I'm free 2:30-3 PM ET, 3:30-4 PM ET, or after 5 PM ET.

Nic

On Mon, Nov 6, 2017 at 9:32 AM, Pottebaum, Nic <nic.pottebaum@iowa.gov> wrote:

I'm have a pretty free morning. Call me on my cell (b)(6) whenever your open.

Nic

On Mon, Nov 6, 2017 at 9:29 AM, Brookes, Brady (CMS/OA) <Brady.Brookes@cms.hhs.gov> wrote:

Seema has been traveling so she asked me to follow up with you. Thanks!

Brady Brookes
Deputy Chief of Staff

Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services

Cell (b)(6)

Desk: 202-690-8316

--

Nicholas Pottebaum | Policy Advisor
Office of the Governor, State of Iowa
Gov. Kim Reynolds & Lt. Gov. Adam Gregg
515.725.3505 | Nic.Pottebaum@iowa.gov
www.governor.iowa.gov
www.ltgovernor.iowa.gov

--

Nicholas Pottebaum | Policy Advisor
Office of the Governor, State of Iowa
Gov. Kim Reynolds & Lt. Gov. Adam Gregg
515.725.3505 | Nic.Pottebaum@iowa.gov
www.governor.iowa.gov
www.ltgovernor.iowa.gov

--

Nicholas Pottebaum | Policy Advisor
Office of the Governor, State of Iowa
Gov. Kim Reynolds & Lt. Gov. Adam Gregg
515.725.3505 | Nic.Pottebaum@iowa.gov
www.governor.iowa.gov
www.ltgovernor.iowa.gov

Olin, Jay K. (CMS/OSORA)

From: CMS SV1
Sent: Tuesday, July 31, 2018 5:12 PM
To: CMS Administrator
Subject: Accepted: Accepted: Call w/Gov. Reynolds (R-IA)

Olin, Jay K. (CMS/OSORA)

Subject: Call w/Gov. Reynolds (R-IA)

Location: Gov. Cell: (b)(6),(b)(7)(C)

Start: Wed 08/01/2018 9:15 AM

End: Wed 08/01/2018 9:30 AM

Show Time As: Tentative

Recurrence: (none)

Meeting Status: Not yet responded

Organizer: CMS Administrator

Required Attendees: CMS (b)(6),(b)(7)(C) Brady Brookes (Brady.Brookes@cms.hhs.gov)

From: [Dennis G Smith](#)
To: [Neale, Brian \(CMS/CMCS\)](#)
Cc: [Verma, Seema \(CMS/OA\)](#)
Subject: Good news to share--3 PASSEs
Date: Wednesday, January 10, 2018 3:44:39 PM

Given the focus on Arkansas Works, you may have forgotten about our provider-led PASSE model for high cost BH and DD folks. Am very pleased to tell you that we will begin the first round of attribution this week into 3 PASSEs that have been licensed, successfully completed the care coordination readiness review and have signed the PASSE provider agreement. The PASSEs will begin care coordination for their members February 1. Additional rounds of attribution will be done monthly, reaching approximately 30,000 high cost folks by the end of June. We have been impressed with new technology and training that elevates the role of care coordination. Even though we are using the 1915 PCCM authority, everyone understands this not the old case management model.

As you may recall, we use an Independent Assessment (Optum is our vendor, Dave Goetz is doing a great job) to identify the individuals who meet Tier II and Tier III level of care. The IA system has provided even greater insights into the BH and DD populations and into the mental health system than we expected. The number of people who need both DD and BH services is even higher than we expected; it more acutely displays some of the friction between a public mental health system that existed for decades and a Medicaid financing system in ways that get little attention. I think will write a paper on what we have learned just through the IA. I know this is not the kind of stuff that grabs headlines in DC, but it will make a great deal of difference in the lives of some of our most vulnerable citizens, many of whom would not survive long without our assistance. While folks always talk about how important Medicaid is for people who need BH and DD, which is obviously true, they seldom talk about how it could be so much better AND cost less.

While we are very pleased, I keep reminding folks internally and externally that this still has been the easy part. The real goal is January 1 2019 when the PASSEs accept full risk for ALL medical and specialty services. We have great deal to do (have RFP out for actuarial work which closes this week) for which we will need all kinds of your help to start on time, but wanted to take the moment to say many thanks to you and the team for all the support and good things are happening. All the best,
Dennis

From: [Groen, Stephanie](#)
To: [Verma, Seema \(CMS/OA\)](#); [Pate, Randy \(CMS/CCIIO\)](#)
Cc: [Nic Pottebaum](#); [Doug Ommen](#); [Mcelhaney, Chance](#); [Andria Seip](#); [Lindberg, Jennifer](#); [Ryan Koopmans](#)
Subject: Governor Reynolds Letter
Date: Monday, October 23, 2017 2:55:49 PM
Attachments: [Gov Reynolds Letter to Treasury & HHS.pdf](#)

Administrator Verma and Deputy Administrator Pate,

Attached you will find a courtesy electronic copy of the letter from Governor Reynolds to Secretary Mnuchin and Acting Secretary Hargan formally withdrawing Iowa's waiver.

We remain appreciative of your partnership throughout this process.

Best,
Stephanie

--

Stephanie Groen | Director of State-Federal Relations

Office of the Governor, State of Iowa

Gov. Kim Reynolds and Lt. Gov. Adam Gregg

202.624.5479 | stephanie.groen@iowa.gov

www.governor.iowa.gov

www.ltgovernor.iowa.gov



STATE OF IOWA

KIM REYNOLDS
GOVERNOR

DOUG OMMEN
COMMISSIONER OF INSURANCE

ADAM GREGG
LT. GOVERNOR

October 23, 2017

The Honorable Steven Mnuchin
Secretary
U.S. Department of Treasury
1500 Pennsylvania Ave, NW
Washington, D.C. 20220

The Honorable Eric D. Hargan
Acting Secretary
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
200 Independence Ave, SW
Washington, D.C. 20201

Dear Secretary Mnuchin and Acting Secretary Hargan,

The Iowa Insurance Division on behalf of the State of Iowa submitted a Section 1332 Waiver Application under the Affordable Care Act to the U.S. Department of Treasury and U.S. Department of Health and Human Services on August 21, 2017.

Section 1332 Waivers in the Affordable Care Act are unworkable. Section 1332 Waivers are not designed to fix collapsing individual health insurance markets created by the Affordable Care Act. Therefore, Iowa is withdrawing its pending waiver.

The United States Congress must take action to fix this.

Sincerely,

Doug Ommen
Iowa Insurance Commissioner

cc: Kim Reynolds, Governor of Iowa
Seema Verma, Administrator, Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services
Members of the U.S. House of Representatives
Members of the U.S. Senate

From: [Seip, Andria](#)
To: [Verma, Seema \(CMS/OA\)](#); [Ryan Koopmans](#); [Pottebaum, Nic](#); [Stephanie Groen](#); [Doug Ommen](#)
Subject: Iowa Stopgap Measure Economic and Actuarial Analysis
Date: Friday, October 13, 2017 3:36:29 PM
Attachments: [Iowa Stopgap Measure Supplemental Economic and Actuarial Analysis 10.13.17..pdf](#)

Hello Administrator Verma,

Please see the attached supplement to Iowa's Economic and Actuarial Analysis for the Iowa Stopgap Measure. Please contact me with any questions.

Thank you,
Andria Seip

--

Andria Seip, J.D., M.S.

Assistant Commissioner, Product and Producer Regulation Bureau



Two Ruan Center
601 Locust Street, 4th Floor
Des Moines, Iowa 50309
Phone: 515-281-4222 · Fax: 515-281-3059
Email: Andria.Seip@iid.iowa.gov

CONFIDENTIALITY NOTICE: This email message (including any attachments) may be confidential or protected by one or more of the following: the attorney-client privilege, attorney work product doctrine, or applicable laws. If you are not the intended recipient or have received this message in error, please: (1) do not read, print, copy, distribute or use it in any way; (2) permanently delete or destroy the message (including any attachments); and (3) notify the sender immediately by reply email or telephone. Any unintended transmission of this email message does not constitute a waiver of any applicable privilege or protection.



STATE OF IOWA

KIM REYNOLDS
GOVERNOR

DOUG OMMEN
COMMISSIONER OF INSURANCE

ADAM GREGG
LT. GOVERNOR

October 13, 2017

The Honorable Seema Verma
Administrator
Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services
200 Independence Ave, SW
Washington, DC 20201

RE: IOWA STOPGAP MEASURE

Dear Administrator Verma:

The state of Iowa continues to work in earnest to obtain approval of the Iowa Stopgap Measure. However, a very significant concern has been the extraordinary difficulty in predicting the 2018 ACA individual market with its unprecedented premium rate increases. Yet, it is these predictions that serve as a baseline for both the budget neutrality and pass-through funding analysis.

While we know with a high degree of certainty that the rates will be unaffordable for the vast majority of Iowans with household incomes over 400% FPL, additional economic analysis now indicates that we previously underestimated the households among our insured population individual market with incomes of less than 400% FPL.

The Iowa waiver was premised on per member per month analysis for budget neutrality and pass-through funding because of our expectation that enrollment under the Iowa Stopgap Measure will attract healthy and currently uninsured individuals back into the market. However, we have carefully considered trends in Iowa's economy and believe due to falling incomes, an additional 1,000 individuals in our individual health insurance market are estimated to have fallen or will be falling below 400% FPL in 2018 and will now migrate into the subsidized segment of the market and be eligible for APTC. While Iowa has identified approximately 1,800 additional individuals who will also likely fall below that income level, we anticipate that that many of those individuals are currently covered by small group coverage, grandfathered plans, or transitional plans and will not move into the individual market at this time.

Our analysis had assumed that the 72,000 individuals in the 2017 market would be a static population of persons considering participation for 2018. Prior actuarial analysis by our actuaries had concluded that Medica's 2018 rates would cause 18,000 to 22,000 individuals to drop coverage leaving an estimated 50,000 to 54,000 individuals in that market. Of the 47,000 in the 2017 market, our actuaries estimate at least 40,000 individuals receive APTC. However, based upon recently considered downward pressure in our economy, there is strong support to conclude that 41,000 persons with incomes below 400% FPL will be in the 2018 ACA compliant market. With this change, Iowa is now in a position to adjust our estimate of the 2018 individual ACA market to an estimated 51,000 to 55,000 without the waiver. Likewise, we would now estimate 69,000 individuals in the market with the waiver.

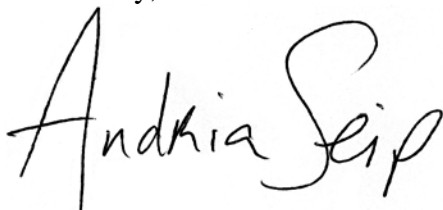
Further, we now find support for pass-through funding of approximately \$432 million, an increase of \$10 million.

In prior correspondence, you sought information seeking clarification on the costs of premium credits for the Stopgap Measure. The differences in the cost projection numbers are due to the numbers being based on a range of estimated enrollment that would be covered at each income level with premium credits. The NovaRest report that you requested was assembled using an earlier estimate within the range. The final estimate for the expected population was reported on page 40 of the waiver in the section describing the "Deficit Neutrality Requirement," wherein it stated, "As noted above, enrollment in the Iowa Stopgap Measure will vary but if an estimate of 68,000 Iowans enroll, approximately \$305 million will be used for premium credits." Given that our estimates now reflect an additional 1,000 participants, the premium credits under the Stopgap Measure will cost an additional \$6.6 to \$7 million.

We must again note the extraordinary challenge of projecting enrollment in the midst of an insurance market collapse, which is occurring because of very sharp annual rate increases that began several years ago. We are seeking to project 2018 after 3 years of adverse selection, and historical rate requests, which are likely to drive another estimated 20,000 mostly healthy individuals – who pay the full premium – from the individual market.

Please let me know if you have additional questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Andria Seip". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Andria" and last name "Seip" clearly distinguishable.

Andria Seip, J.D., M.S.
Assistant Commissioner
Iowa Insurance Division
andria.seip@iid.iowa.gov
515-281-4222

From: Barbara.Sears@medicaid.ohio.gov
To: [Verma, Seema \(CMS/OA\)](#)
Cc: Karla.Warren@medicaid.ohio.gov; Patrick.Stephan@medicaid.ohio.gov
Subject: Ohio Department of Medicaid MyCare Ohio extension request
Date: Thursday, July 12, 2018 10:22:02 AM
Attachments: [CMS MyCare of Ohio extention request ltr from BRS 7-12-18.pdf](#)

Good morning Administrator Verma:

Please see the attached letter regarding Ohio Medicaid's financial alignment initiative.

Barbara

Barbara R. Sears
Director – Ohio Department of Medicaid
614-752-5024 (Office)

(b)(6),(b)(7)(C)

 (Cell)

Executive Administrative Contact: Sherri Trott
614-752-3786





Department of Medicaid

John R. Kasich, Governor
Barbara R. Sears, Director

July 12, 2018

Seema Verma, Administrator
Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services
Medicare-Medicaid Coordination Office
7500 Security Boulevard
Baltimore, MD 21244

Dear Administrator Verma:

The Ohio Department of Medicaid (ODM), in partnership with the CMS Medicare–Medicaid Coordination Office (MMCO), launched the MyCare Ohio Duals Demonstration in May 2014 to bring better health outcomes to “dual-eligible” individuals who have both Medicare and Medicaid benefits. Through our partnership, Ohio was the third state in the nation to earn federal approval for its dual demonstration program, and is a national leader in its efforts for coordinating the care of dual eligible individuals, which have the most complicated health care needs and are the most costly population to serve.

MyCare Ohio is improving the lives of Ohioans and their health care delivery by:

- Utilizing managed care plans to improve continuity and coordination of care that is person centered;
- Providing a primary point of contact for beneficiaries;
- Focusing on individual choice and control of care delivery;
- Coordinating long-term care, behavioral health and physical health services;
- Encouraging and supporting an individual’s right to live independently, and;
- Providing seamless transitions between settings of care and programs.

Now four years into the MyCare Ohio demonstration, Ohio Medicaid is looking towards the future. We are eager to continue improving the health outcomes of our state’s dual eligibles. As such, Ohio Medicaid is requesting a three-year extension of the MyCare Ohio demonstration, with a new end date of Dec. 31, 2022. Our current authority for the demonstration ends Dec. 31, 2019.

As of July 2018, about 113,000 individuals in 29 Ohio counties are being served through the demonstration. 67% of those individuals are receiving both their Medicare and Medicaid benefits from one of five managed care plans that coordinate an individual’s entire spectrum of care, including behavioral health, primary health and long-term services and supports. Member success stories for both the opt-in and the opt-out populations have demonstrated that plans are connecting members to needed services, and helping them live independently in the community.

Our quality measures reflect improved health outcomes and quality of life for MyCare Ohio members. 59% of MyCare Ohio statewide HEDIS results exceeded the 75th national NCQA Medicaid percentile. 66% of MyCare members rated their health plan a 9 or 10 on the 2017 CAHPS survey. Nursing home residents who are dually eligible are getting the chance to live in the community. Our managed care

July 12, 2018

plans are moving nursing home residents into the community at a faster pace than the equivalent fee-for-service (FFS) Medicaid population, resulting in an estimated annual savings of approximately \$30 million above what would have been achieved under the traditional Medicaid FFS program.

As we look towards the future of the duals demonstration programs, Ohio Medicaid would also like to use this opportunity to state our support for the continuation of the funding for the duals demonstrations ombudsman program. We value the work of the Ohio Office of the State Long-Term Care Ombudsman in our demonstration and believe their advocacy and problem-solving efforts has improved the experience of and access to care for MyCare Ohio members.

In a time when CMS has pledged to allow states the flexibility to design programs that meet the needs of their population, we believe a three-year extension of the MyCare Ohio demonstration is in the best interest of the more than 113,000 dual eligibles in the program. Additional years will allow us to continue to extend the benefits of care coordination and to better manage the care of our state's dual eligible population. We value our partnership with MMCO and look forward to the opportunity to continue the great work we are doing together. Ohio Medicaid looks forward to discussing the next steps with your team as soon as possible.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Barbara R. Sears". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name being the most prominent.

Barbara R. Sears, Director